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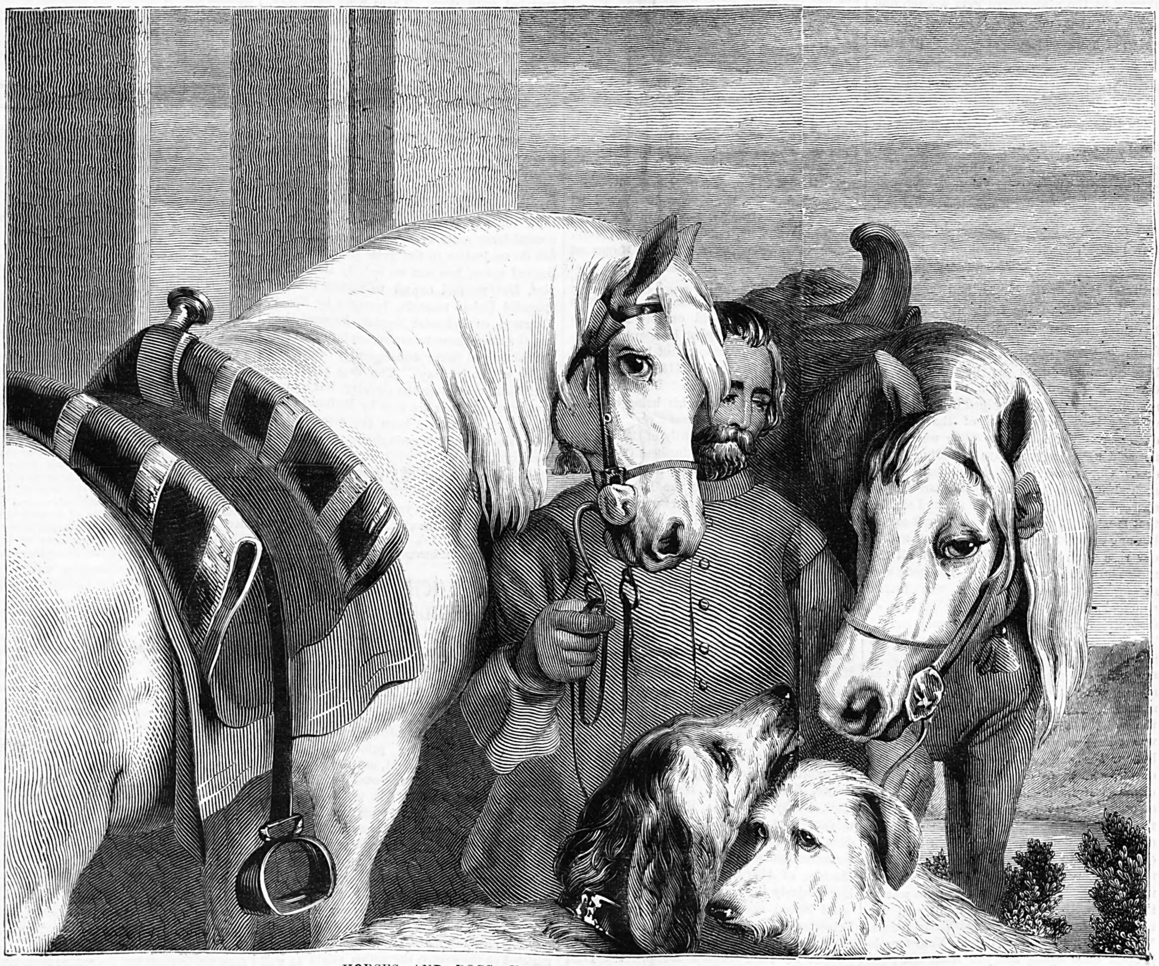
# HORSES AND DOGS BY A MASTER.

These are Sir Edwin Landseer's horses and dogs. Though a mere sketch by the artist, though the work has passed through the engraver's hands, and though the animals have not been made to take on any peculiarity which would not belong to two such horses and two such dogs in life, the merest tyro in art criticism would declare in a moment that that is one of Landseer's pictures, and that not so much on account of the composition or details of the work as because of a certain tone and expression in the creatures themselves. It is an attribute of original artists of all degrees thus to stamp their own originality upon their pictures; but there are different ways of doing it, and by a study of the various modes we may learn in time in some measure to estimate the greatness of the artist. As a rule, the man whose stamp of originality appears most in the essence of the picture, without affecting its truthfulness, is the greater genius. A mere mannerism of detail is more or less affection; a mannerism in the spirit of the work is real, and reveals something of the artist's nature. Sir Edwin Landseer is great in his individuality; great in his peculiarities. We know him in his pictures not by the eccentricity of a line, not by an oddity or peculiarity in finish, but by the very life of the creatures of his pencil. Wherever is the best point in one of his pictures, there more than anywhere else we detect, so to speak, the signature of the prince of animal painters. Take the horse in the foreground of this engraving. In that right eye, which seems to take note—half proud and half shy—of the spectator, one sees nothing but truthfulness and life. To render that feature of this particular horse without a fault, one would say it must be drawn exactly, to a tittle, as the great artist has drawn it. And yet the experienced picture-fancier will aver that this is a horse's eye by Sir Edwin Landseer. He will want no name at the foot, he will scarcely want any accessories, to tell him that no other man, of all the animal painters living and dead, translated that feature into lines and curves. So it is, more or less distinctly, in every one of the points which make the excellence of this work, and so it is with all Sir Edwin's pictures. The dog's head to the right is as good as the painter's name in the corner of the sketch, and yet there is not a line in it that is not necessary to the presentation of this particular animal. These are the mysteries of individuality and originality, and they increase tenfold the interest of the lover of art in the works of eminent artists. If we questioned these mysteries very closely we should probably discover something more than is known as yet of the secret of our love of art for art's sake, independently of our interest in the objects depicted and in the faithful rendering of them. In horses and dogs, as we see them in the field, the streets, or the Show, there is pure nature, and we like to watch all its attributes or peculiarities; but in a picture of horses and dogs there is nature with, somehow, a dash of human nature in it, enough to make the artist and the spectator kin.



HORSES AND DOGS.—From a Sketch by Sir Edwin Landseer.

# DECEMBER.

There is a something in the last month of the year which brings home the thoughts of Englishmen. Our interest in remote affairs and distant events visibly slackens. From allowing our attention to wander for a long season over the wide world's story we come back with a certain pull, as if the spring of our life were wound up close about this time. The operation begins just as November runs out. Ah, what a tight grip Old England has on our hearts after all! We are the greatest wanderers on the face of our planet, but we never get out of the attraction of this centre of our gravity. There is no loadstone like this island, and strange to say, it tugs hardest at our hearts when the surface of the land is off the blossom, when the hedgerows are no longer green, when the glamour of vegetation is gone from the hills and swept out of the valleys, when the birds are silent, when the skies are grey or dun, and the streets of our populous cities are packed with fog and lazy smoke. We come back to this land then, every one of us, if we can, and grow, in a manner, more kin-like and kind one towards another. Some of our people are bidden by the cruel exigencies of waning health to go to southern climes at this season, and we who are left behind can imagine them enjoying the soft luxury of a December summer in those sweetly favoured zones where no chill falls upon the too delicate physiological machinery; but neither do we envy them their going nor do they look back without a sigh upon the good old land they are leaving, the bright December fires, the thronging of folks together at home and abroad in a less business-like mood than at any other season, the greetings that grow warmer as the atmosphere gets keener, and above all that mysterious renewal of the spring of home-feeling that comes to us all in the days upon which we are just now entering. We are northern folks, and that is perhaps the secret. We came, mostly, in the olden time, from a latitude somewhat nearer the pole than our own, and the old Norse spirit descends once again upon us at the coming of mid-winter. Much as we love fair spring and joyous summer and the rich and mellow autumn, we stand by the picturesqueness, the strong light and shade, the sharp contrasts, the glow and darkness, the artificial light in the gloom, and the natural animal warmth in the frosty air, of winter. In these things we all have an inborn faith, however much we grumble at the hardships put upon us by the season. Our geographical insulation, as well as our semi-Arctic origin, has helped in the making of this inwrought strain of the English character. It is as if the restless washing of the cold waves were always sounding in our ears. Our nature is, no doubt, built up by such influences as these, and our life is attuned to the music of the sea and air, be that music wild and stormy or as soft as the buzzing of the bees in June. What makes our men such sailors? Which, of all the races and tribes in the world, has gone and measured the geography of the frozen spheres? To whom belong the laurels of discoveries in the lands of eternal snow? The English nature is greedy of these labours and perils and spoils—greedy above that of any other people—and, in spite of the old savage prejudice, bred in the blood of all mankind, that awards supreme honours to the heroism displayed in war, there never was a time when we did not in our hearts honour our adventurers, our discoverers, our champions who waged battle with the elements of the air and sea, and those braves of ours who sought out unknown dangers by the pilotage of the stars—at least as highly as we have done our warriors. So we all come home to the love of our land and of the small brotherhood that remains with us, in winter, and acknowledge—if not in words, in feeling—that there is something in the time that beats in unison with our pulses. Welcome, then, old December! Your temple is open once again, and you shall not want devotees.

# THE BIRMINGHAM SHOWS.

The great Christmas shows have been held this week, and Bingley Hall and Curzon Hall were crowded from Monday morning till Thursday night.

The cattle made a splendid show. The Herefords, as usual, led off. They were a capital lot of thirty-five fat oxen, steers, and heifers. Short-horns were still more numerous, and though not quite so uniformly fine, there were some magnificent animals among them. The gems of the show for symmetry and quality were the Devons, which would be grazed all over England were it not for the fact that they thrive nowhere so well as in their own county. There were some very big Long-horns, a lot of wild-looking, gigantic, but well-shaped, and finely-fattened Scotch, a few Welsh, and about a score of the unclassified sorts, which have usually more or less of the universal short-horn blood in them. Besides the three prizes offered in every class, there is a twenty pound prize given for the best Hereford of any class or age, and the same for the best short-horn, the best Devon, and the best Scot. In addition there is a gold medal for the best ox or steer in the Hall; and the President's prize of £25 and the Birmingham Innkeepers' cup for the best animal in all the cattle classes. So when an animal takes the first prize in his class he is pitted against all the first prize animals of his breed; if he comes first out of that ordeal he has to be compared with the best of every other breed; winning that race he is put side by side with all the best heifers. If he wins in this last encounter he is the hero of the week. That honour at this Birmingham show was reserved for a short-horn ox, three years and nine months old, bred and exhibited by Mr. Thomas Pulver, Broughton, Kettering. He is a model ox. Not excessively large nor unreasonably fat, but finely shaped in his frame, and carrying the largest amount of meat just where the meat is finest. This animal bore the labels of the first prize of £15 as the best Shorthorn ox over three years old, £20 as the best Shorthorn of all classes, £15 given by the Earl of Aylesbury as the best Shorthorn bred by the exhibitor, a gold medal as the best ox or steer of any sort, and the President's £25 and Innkeeper's Cup as the best animal of all the oxen, steers, and heifers in the building. His prizes, therefore, amounted to £75 plus a Medal and a Cup. In the Hereford classes the best was the three-year-old steer bred and exhibited by Mr. Benjamin Cocks, of Tugford, Munslow, Salop. His prizes were, a first in his class, £15.; the ex-Mayor of Birmingham's £20 as the best Hereford bred by exhibitor; and the Society's Silver Medal for being bred by exhibitor. In the Devon classes the four-year-old exhibited by Mr. William Smith, of Higher Hoopern, Exeter, carried off the top honours of his beautiful breed. His prizes were £15 as the best Devon ox; £20 as the best Devon of any class; a silver medal for his being bred by the exhibitor, and there was a further prize of £5 awarded, independently of the society, by Mr. Beach, for being the best Devon fed on Beach's farinaceous cattte food. Another dignity was bestowed on the Devon breed. If Mr. Pulver's Shorthorn was the best animal of any breed in the show, Mr. McNiven's Devon cow, "Lady the Second," five years and seven months old, was the best cow or heifer of any sort in the Hall, and took a gold medal in token of the fact. The best Scot in the show was that exhibited by Mr. Richard Heath Harris, of Morayshire. We can only add briefly that the other winners of first prizes were:—Herefords: Messrs. Philip Turner, of Bembridge; Thomas Instone, of Bourton; Her Majesty the Queen. Shorthorns: The Earl of Aylsford, Executors of the late Joseph Dodwell, of Long Crendon; Mrs. McWilliam, of Aberdeenshire. Devons: Messrs. Lee Senior, of Broughton House. Longhorns: Sir John H. Crewe, Bart., and Mr. W. T. Cox, Sponder Hall, Derby. Scotch: Sir Walter C. Trevelyan, Bart.; Mr. W. McCombie, of Aberdeen; and Sir Charles E. Isham, Bart.; and for miscellaneous classes Messrs. J. and W. Machin, of Aberdeen; Lord Dunmore, and Her Majesty the Queen.

Of Sheep there was a very good lot of Leicesters, Lincolnshires, Cotswolds, Southdowns, and Shropshires. The sheep do not go out of their classes for prizes. Lord Berners stood first for Leicesters; Mr. Harris, of Wootton, for Lincolns; Mr. Hall, of Great Barford, for Cotswolds; Lord Walsingham for Southdowns; Lord Chesham for Shropshires; Mr. Stilgoe, of Banbury, for Oxfordshires; and the winners in miscellaneous classes were Messrs. Alfred Marrison, of Tisbury; Matthew E. Jones, of Wellingbro' Lodge; William Shipman, Melton Mowbraw; John Pears, Mere; George Anderson May, Tamworth; and John Treadwell, Aylesbury. The chief winners were the well-known Messrs. Duckering and Son, of Northorpe; Rev. H. G. Binley, of Swindon; Mr. Richard Fowler, of Aylesbury; Mr. Wheeler, of Long Compton; and Mr. Eden, of Salford. There was a large and fine show of corn and roots. The mangolds, turnips, and potatoes were very fine.

When we say that in the Poultry and Pigeon Show there were 2578 birds, nearly 500 prizes, and as many more commendations, we shall have absolved ourselves from the task of either criticising the classes or analysing the prize list. There were nearly 300 dorkings, and more than 300 cochin chinas—a grand display of fine birds. Among the game fowls were some of the finest we ever saw. The pigeons were a beautiful lot, and so were the bantams. The fat geese and turkeys were immense, and there were some exquisitely coloured and marked fancy ducks. So extensive is this show of birds that to walk past the pens and inspect them as they deserve, in the order of classes and breeds, is a work of hours, and the visitor can hardly help marvelling at the extraordinary success of the society in getting together such an enormous exhibition. The amount of money taken at the doors at this show on Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, was £1131, which is about £130 more than last year. We cannot give this week the returns for Thursday. On the three first days this week about 30,000 persons visited Bingley Hall.

## THE DOG SHOW.

This is a separate exhibition, held in Curzon Hall. The great building—floor, galleries, and all the recesses above and below—was crowded with dogs. There were examples, probably, of every sort to be seen in this country, and perhaps nearly all the remarkable animals, of every class, to be found between the four seas. To be told that there were 864 dogs, does not convey an adequate idea of the scene presented to the visitor. The Hall teems with dog life in every conceivable form, and the air is filled with yaps, and barks, and yells. There was a very fine lot of bloodhounds and retrievers; the mastiffs were a grand show, and all the hunting and sporting classes were very strong, but hardly stronger than the toy classes and the bulls, while several fancy sorts were well represented. We can do no justice to the prize list within our limited space, nor can we specify fine examples, but we feel bound to notice the two splendid Cuban mastiffs, brought by Mr. P. Vargner, of Leicester Square, because they had the misfortune to arrive too late for competition, and were consequently exhibited under a disadvantage. The dog prizes are well distributed over the country, but a large proportion of them are won by Midland exhibitors. So great has been the attraction of these shows that Birmingham streets have been quite crowded with strangers all the week. The number of visitors up to Wednesday night was 17,102, being about 3,000 more than in previous years. The amount of money taken was about £750.

# THE FRENCH FLEET OFF HELIGOLAND.

The engraving on our 364th page is from a a sketch by Mr. C. Weedon of the appearance of the French iron-clad fleet off Heligoland on the 11th of August. The fleet was then under the command of Admiral Boet Willaumez, proceeding to the blockade of the Prussian ports. The vessel in the foreground is the Admiral's flag-ship, the Surveillante. The other principal ironclads, several of which are in sight, are the Couronne, Normandie, Invincible, Magenta, Solferino, and the cupola ship Taureau. The blockade was entrusted to Vice-Admiral Fourichon. Since the 15th of July we have heard now and then that the fleet has been seen off Heligoland or some other point of observation, and that is about all the naval history of this war. At the commencement of the campaign it was thought that the French forces on the sea would go far to give France an advantage over her enemy, but for all the good the fleet has done to France, or all the mischief it has inflicted on the enemy, the nation might as well have been without these costly ironclads.

# THE WAR.

One of the earliest events of the week, after the conclusion of our last summary, was the capitulation of Thionville, which occurred on the 24th. The formal surrender was on the 25th. The bombardment, commenced on the 22nd, was carried on by seventy-six guns. The town was burning for three days. Thionville was occupied at eleven o'clock on Friday morning by the German troops. 200 cannon and 4,000 prisoners were captured. The German loss during the bombardment was small.

A despatch from Orleans, dated Saturday, and reaching Tours on Sunday, stated that engagements had taken place at the central positions at Gentelle and Boves, and that the Germans were repulsed and pursued at the point of the bayonet. Their losses are stated to have been treble that of the French; but the Commandant Yann was seriously wounded. The French troops are said to be acquiring fresh skill every day, and to be full of dash. A despatch from Orleans, dated the 26th, states that an engagement in which the French were victorious had taken place at Neuville. The Germans, who had bombarded the town, were repulsed, and left behind them many dead and wounded, and eighty prisoners. The French losses were of trifling importance.

A German telegram of Friday's date indicated that the French army in and near Orleans was still prospering. The telegram ran thus:—

> It is stated on good authority that the French hold Orelans in force, and that their expected retreat across the Loire has not even commenced. The actions reported from the direction of Dreux and Chateauneuf have been mere skirmishes with outlying detachments, to cover the advance of the German right towards Le Mans. The Army of the Loire, as a body, seems never to have been north of Artenay.

The following are telegrams of Sunday's date with regard to the investment of Montmedy:—

> The *Echo du Luxembourg* publishes the following telegram from the French frontier, dated November 25th:—"For the last two hours this morning cannonading and sharp firing have been heard in the direction of Montmedy. Montmedy is not besieged, but is completely invested. All the roads have been intercepted by barricades, and all the neighbouring villages are occupied by the Prussians, a great number of whom are concealed in the woods. The Mobiles and Francs-tireurs are incessantly harassing the enemy. The town is calm, and the commandant has declared his firm intention to blow up the fortress rather than surrender it to the Prussians."

We append a number of small items of Friday's date, from French reports:—

> Ministerial despatches announce that a Prussian detachment was attacked on the 24th at St. Agil, and suffered great losses. The enemy is advancing in the direction of Mondoubleau. Prussian cavalry has ordered 2,000 rations at Le Gault. Uhlans are threatening the railway at Freteval, on the north-east of Vendôme. The Prussians were still yesterday in the neighbourhood of Evreaux. The Garibaldians have surprised and put to flight the Prussians at Auxon, making nine prisoners. The Prussians lost 30 killed and wounded. A decree has been published ordering the immediate formation of camps for instructing and concentrating Mobilised National Guards, called out by the decree of the 2nd of November. Mobile Guards, Free Corps, and contingents of the regular army will also be admitted into these camps, which are to be formed at St. Omer, Cherbourg, Conlie, Nevers, La Rochelle, Bordeaux, Clermont-Ferrand, Toulouse, Pas-des-Lanciers, and Lyons. The camps at St. Omer, Cherbourg, La Rochelle, and Pas-des-Lanciers, will be put in a fit state to receive 250,0 0 men, and will be strategical camps. Each of the others will be capable of containing 60,000 men, and will only be camps of instruction. According to news received here, the Prussian attack is directed on three points—Le Mans, causing the Prussian corps from Alençon to fall back. An official despatch from Amiens announces that the Prussians were repulsed at Gentelles and Boves on the 26th, and were pursued at the point of the bayonet. Their loss was three times that of the French. The Prussians have also been repulsed near Vouzancourt, in the district of Beaune, by the Mobile Guard of Doubs. The enemy retreated on Montbelliard.

On Monday evening telegraphic news arrived from Tours of a French defeat, thus:—

> Official despatches announce a battle between Villers Bretonneux and Soleur, near Amiens, which lasted the whole of Sunday. The fighting at the commencement was favourable to the French, who maintained their positions up till half-past four o'clock, when Villers Bretonneaux was abandoned before the superior forces and powerful artillery of the enemy. The French troops were beaten at Boves, but at Drury they maintained their positions. The German forces engaged are estimated at 3,000 men.

On Sunday La Fère has capitulated, after two days' bombardment. About 2,000 men and 70 cannon were captured.

A lively fire was kept up by the southern forts of Paris during the night from the 26th to the 27th inst.

Engagements took place on Sunday, and lasted until darkness set in, between the German First Army and the advancing French Army of the North. The French army, who were well armed and outnumbered the Germans, were driven back upon the Somme, and to their entrenched position before Amiens, with a loss of several thousand men. A French regiment of Marine infantry was ridden down by the 9th regiment of Hussars. The German losses were not inconsiderable.

The following proclamation was issued on Monday at Amiens, by the Prefect of the Department of the Somme:—

"Citizens! The day of trial has arrived. Notwithstanding my efforts, Amiens is about to fall into the hands of the enemy. A Council of War has decided on the retreat of the Army of the North, and on the disarmament of the National Guard. I have to leave you for the present, but hope to return soon. Remain calm and confident, and France will be saved. Long live France! Long live the Republic!"

A decree dated the 26th inst. subordinates the army of Count Kératry to the Commander of the 21st Army Corps, in order to secure a proper unity in the command of the forces of the West.

A decree of the 22nd inst. gives a still more vigorous application to the decrees calling out all the able-bodied men between 26 and 40 years of age.

The defeat of the French at Amiens was a blow struck at General Aurelles de Paladine's plans, for the whole of the French forces appear to be acting in concert, under the supreme command of that officer. The battle, however, though unimportant in itself, by reason of the numbers engaged and the casualties, does not seem to be of sufficient consequence to materially interfere with the General's plans for the relief of Paris. The following are later notifications, the first from the German and the second from the French side, of the encounter:—

The King has sent to Queen Augusta the following account of the battle before Amiens:—Yesterday a victorious engagement was fought to the south of Amiens, by General Manteuffel, with a portion of the First Army. The loss of the enemy was some thousand men. Seven hundred prisoners were captured, and the colours of a regiment of Mobile Guards. The 9th Hussar regiment rode down a regiment of marine infantry. Our loss was not inconsiderable. It is stated that Amiens was occupied this morning by 70,000 Prussians. The fighting has recommenced to-day (Monday.)

"The Commissary for the National Defence regrets to have to announce the following to his fellow-citizens:—Yesterday (Sunday) the portion of the Twenty-second Army Corps covering Amiens was attacked on its whole line by very superior forces. The struggle was long and fierce. At twenty-five minutes past seven General Farre telegraphed: 'Fight was apparently well commenced and well sustained up to half-past four o'clock. At seven I was obliged to abandon Villers-Bretonneux before superior forces.' The Marine-Infantry soldiers were magnificent; but towards two o'clock in the morning the news arrived that, after a council held by the chiefs, retreat was deemed indispensible. Details are still wanting as regards the main facts of the day, and also the number of our losses. We only know that the Mobils battallions did not suffer much. The Commissary for the Defence, A. Testelin."

The following is a German account of a battle on the Loire on Monday:

Prince Frederick Charles announces that the Tenth Army Corps was attacked to-day (Monday) by a largely superior force of the enemy. The former concentrated their force at Beaume-la-Rolande (arrondissement Pithiviers), where they successfully maintained their position, and in the afternoon, in the presence of the Prince, were supported by the 5th division, and the 1st Cavalry division. Our loss is about 1,000 men. That of the enemy was very considerable. Several hundred prisoners are in our hands. The engagement ended about five p.m.

On the 28th the Tenth Army Corps, supported by the 5th Division and the 1st Cavalry Division, victoriously repulsed an attack of two French Army Corps near Beaune-la-Rolande. Prince Frederick Charles being present. The French lost a great number of killed and wounded, and left nearly a thousand prisoners in our hands.

The French account ran thus:—

Some rather sharp engagements took place yesterday on the front of the Army of the Loire, between Montargis and Pithiviers. The enemy was successfully repulsed with material loss at the different points of attack. Many prisoners and one gun were captured by the French.

M. Keratry has resigned his command. General Bourbaki has been appointed to the command of the 19th Army Corps. The following is the German despatch of Friday's date of the defeat of Garibaldians:—

During the night of the 26th an attack of Garibaldian troops on our advanced guard at Pasques, near Dijon, was repulsed by two battalions. The enemy fled in disorder, leaving their baggage behind. On the 27th General Werder, by turning the enemy's position, fell on his rear guard, inflicting a loss of about 400 killed. The enemy retreated in two separate columns in different directions. Our loss amounted to about 50 rank and file.

From St. Quentin comes the following account of the capitulation of La Fere;—

Captain Planche, of the French Navy, commandant of La Fere, to the Minister of War at Tours and to the General commanding at Lille:—"After a fortnight's investment, during which every means was attempted, either by sortie or artillery fire, to check the works of the enemy, the place was attacked by powerful siege artillery and mortars, and sustained a tremendous bombardment for thirty hours. Contrary to all the laws of war, the enemy opened fire at seven a.m., without giving either warning or preyious summons, which caused the utmost dismay and disaster among the population. From the earliest hour our batteries, outflanked from the heights whick overlook the town, were complely dismounted. Resistance was, however, still kept up during the whole day, the night, and the following day. This unfortunate little town was crushed under a shower of shells. A great portion of it was burnt, and the provisions partly destroyed by fire. Shelter was wanting—no cellars, no casemates. Impossible to restore bastions and batteries. Then, disarmed and powerless, we could not let the population and the troops be uselessly crushed, and, by the unanimous advice of the Defence Council, I was obliged to surrender the place. Our losses are great."

From Tours came telegrams of Wednesday's date saying that on the Loire a great battle is expected every day. Eight hundred beds for the wounded have been ordered at Orleans, and 2,000 in this town. At present we have no news from the front; but the Government is extremely confident as to the result of the engagement about to take place on the Loire. General Bourbaki, after much haggling, has accepted the command of the 18th Corps d'Armée, now stationed near Nevers. To-day we have no post from London, and a Queen's messenger who went to London yesterday had to take the route of Nantes and St. Malo.

## THE EASTERN QUESTION.

The news of the week turns upon the reply of Prince Gortschakoff and the resolutions thereon of the British Cabinet. We give, however, two or three antecedent points of interest:—The Potocki Ministry resigned on Thursday. The delegation met on Friday in Pesth. It was expected that Count Beust would be questioned as to his foreign policy. According to a Pesth telegram, Count Andrassy, the Hungarian Premier, inclines to peace.

A telegram from Constantinople (Friday) says that the North German Ambassador in that city has assured the Porte of the friendly feeling of Germany; and that all fear on the score of Prussia has ceased.

On the 24th it was officially announced in Vienna that the Porte will not permit the slightest infringement of the Treaty of 1856.

In official circles it is believed that Russia is far better prepared for war than is generally supposed. The *Neue Freie Presse* corroborates the report that large bodies of Russian troops are being concentrated at Odessa and to the north-east of Jassy. This movement is, nevertheless, only a military demonstration.

The reply of Count Beust to the circular of Prince Gortschakoff, pointed out that there can be no doubt as to the national obligations involved by the Treaty of 1856, which cannot by one party be modified or annulled. It is merely in deference due to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg that Count Beust proceeds to an analysis of the arguments advanced by Prince Gortschakoff. The fact that Thrkey can maintain a fleet where Russia cannot, could only warrant a desire for a revision of the treaty, but never its arbitrary dissolution. This argument only increases the gravity of the step taken by Russia, as such maxims endanger all existing and future treaties. Turkey is not responsible for the alleged breach of treaty by the union of the Danubian Principalities. Turkey does not demand the sanction of this breach of treaty which infringes upon her rights and interests. The entry into the Black Sea of foreign men-of-war having Princes on board, was a harmless proceeding, of which Russia should have complained if deemed objectionable. The Austro-Hungarian Government learns with painful regret the resolve of Russia, and expresses its deep surprise thereat. It cannot but direct the serious attention of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg to the cousequeuces of such a proceeding.

By a leading article in the *Times* on Tuesday morning, by a writer who appears to be deep in the secrets of the Cabinet Council of Monday, and who could reveal more if it were prudent, we learn that Her Majesty's Ministers have resolved to be very firm in their policy, to take their stand upon Earl Granville's first reply, to prevent by force if necessary the carrying out of the threats of Russia, but at the same time to give their best consideration to any reasonable proposals for settling the difference amicably.

St. Petersburgh advices of Monday state that a great impression has been made there by the Turkish, English, Austrian, and Italian notes, which have been almost identically expressive of a *parti pris*. Russia cannot withdraw her recent notification, but will willingly accord a satisfactory compensation to Turkey. Prussia's proposition to settle the Black Sea question at a conference has been notified here, and in principle received favourably.

From St. Petrrsburg we have the intelligence of Wednesday's date that in that capital the proposition to settle the Eastern question by means of a Conference of the Powers at London has been very favourably received.

## THE TRICOLOUR OF FRANCE.

By Virginia Gabriel.

The following spirited new French patriotic song is published with stirring music by Messrs. Duff and Stewart, of Oxford-street:—

The proud flag of Gallia was once purest white,
Till to liberty's glorious cry,
We dyed it with blood in many a fight,
And blue in the bright Southern sky.
Then on again ye sons of France,
With rifle bayonet and lance;
Forward! let our line advance,
To crush the Northern foe.

The children of freedom awoke from their sleep
In its folds of red, white, and blue,
And carried it high o'er the plain and the deep,
In defence of the noble and true.
Then on again, &c.

The banner of England once waved by its side,
When the dark hosts of Russia were slain,
Aud the Gaul and the Briton in victory died
For each other on Inkerman's plain.
Then on again, &c.

When Italy sighed to be freed from her chain,
And called for the gay "*tricolore*,"
Then we rushed o'er the Alps to dip it again
In the red and the blue as of yore.
Forward went the sons of France,
Striking home with sword and lance,
Fiercely did their line advance,
And trampled down the foe.

Our conquering legions swept on like a flood,
Bearing forward our bright colours three.
Though the waves of her rivers were dyed with our blood,
Yet the land of Italia was free.
Then on again, &c.

Oh! ne'er may that banner be stricken to earth,
Nor soiled by the despot's rude feet:
T'was the garment that freedom first wore at her birth,
And it may be her last winding-sheet.
On! on! for life—ye sons of France,
Daring deeds may turn the chance;
Now or never! sound th' advance!
We'll crush the Northern foe.

James Bontein.

## MM. FAVRE AND GAMBETTA.

On page 360 we present portraits of the two foremost men of the French Government of the 4th of September, M. Jules Favre and M. Leon Gambetta. If they perform no greater deeds in the conspicuous position they occupy, their names will for ever be familiar with the history of the days of the siege of Paris—the one by his fervid assurance that France would not yield one inch of territory, and his remarkable interview with the Count Von Bismarck in the first negotiation for an armistice; the other for his declaration of the deposition of the Emperor and the establishment of a Republic on the 4th of September, and by his extraordinary voyage from Paris to Amiens in a balloon.

One of these patriots is an old man, and the other quite young. M. Gabriel-Claude-Jules Favre was born at Lyons, in 1809. He is an advocate by profession; was one of the makers of the Revolution of 1830, and became Secretary General of the Ministry of the Interior after the Revolution of February, 1849. He was opposed to the Red and Socialistic party of that period, and took part in the prosecution of MM. Louis Blanc and Caussidière, for their complicity in the insurrection of June, 1848. For twenty years, though not attached to the extreme party, he was a consistent opponent of Louis Napoleon, as President and Emperor, and became the recognised leader of his section after the flight of M. Ledru Rollin. In 1851 he refused to take the oath to the new Constitution. In 1858 his defence of Orsini, by its power and eloquence, created a great sensation. As a member of the Corps Legislatif since 1858 he was opposed to the war of 1859, and to the Mexican Expedition. In the elections of 1869 he was defeated at Lyons by a more extreme candidate; but the Seventh Circonscription of Paris elected him to the exclusion of M. Rochefort. The prominent position he has occupied since the fall of the Emperor has been taken as an indication of the preponderance of moderate over Red Republicanism in the country.

M. Leon Gambetta is only thirty-two years of age, and has but recently taken part in public affairs. He is an eloquent and successful law advocate. He was born in the South of France, but he comes of a Genoese family. Having been made Minister of the Interior in the new Government, he was a very active and ardent supporter of the policy of maintaining the war and defending Paris against the invaders. On the 6th of October he left Paris in a balloon, on a mission to stir up the patriotism of the population of as much of France as was not in possession of the enemy, and to organise a military force to check the progress of the German army, and, if possible, to relieve Paris. His balloon voyage was an extraordinary one. The wind changed after the party had embarked on their journey, and when they thought to descend in safety among their own people they found themselves approaching the earth in the neighbourhood of Metz, in the midst of the enemy. They were fired at as they hastened to reascend, several shots penetrated the parachute, and one of the cords by which they were suspended from the balloon was divided by a bullet, and had to be spliced by M. Gambetta. It was not until the 8th, after a voyage in the air of two days and two nights, that the balloon descended in a friendly country, not far from Amiens. M. Gambetta has carried out his task of organising the defensive materials of the provinces better than lookers-on anticipated. It was a difficult undertaking, and for a time it did not seem likely that anything in any degree effective could be done to make even a respectable show of resistance; but there is now a great army in the field, and all the hitherto disconnected forces have been recently brought under the sole command of General Aurelles de Paladine, the hero of Orleans, who achieved the first French victory of any importance in the campaign.

## THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1871.

The following extract is from the *Moniteur Belge*:—"The space appropriated to Belgium will barely allow of a third of the works of proposing exhibitors. The Belgian Commissioners have therefore been obliged to make a careful selection. The examination of the objects proposed for exhibition in London will take place at Brussels on the 20th of January next. Works of sculpture, industrial art, &c., which cannot be moved without difficulty, will be inspected on the premises of the artists between the 15th and 20th of January next. Artists, mechanics, &c., provisionally entered as exhibitors in the fine-art section, will receive the necessary instructions for the transmission of the objects destined to be submitted to the jury of inspection. We are informed of the presence in Brussels of Mr. Henry Cole, C.B., the director of the South Kensington Museum, and Colonel Scott, R.E., secretary of the English Commissioners. They were received by the King, and were present at a meeting of the Belgian Commission, when M. le Baron t'Kint expressed the opinion of the Commissioners that the forthcoming exhibition would be a complete success.

Lord Henry Lennox said, in his opening address at the Society of Arts, that the aathorities for the time being in Paris have, by ballon post, signified their intention to recognise the appointments previously made by the Imperial Government, and have ordered that the permanent structure now in course of erection for an enlarged display of French goods, shall be proceeded with.

Bavaria has intimated that the whole of the space allotted to her for next year will be taken up by a display of fine art.

Hydraulic Lifts will be employed for the purpose of conveying visitors to the upper galleries of the Albert Hall. It is in these galleries that the exhibition of educational works and appliances will take place, and visitors to the Exhibition will be afforded an opportunity of hearing the organ and other musical performances without extra charge.

Inquiries having been made as to whether exhibitors will be allowed to have their own glass cases for the display of their articles, the Commissioners are desirous of making known that they provide all the cases, and that only cases of the nature of a picture frame will be permitted exhibitors for such articles as require protection. Though articles may, by this arrangement, possibly be separated, every exhibit will bear the name, &c., of the exhibitor.

The scaffolding which has been used in the construction of the Albert Hall is gradually disappearing from the interior, and the proportions of the hall and its capabilities in the matter of sound are gradually being developed. The farthest point from the orchestra at which listeners will be placed is in the gallery, and at some musical experiments which took place on Wednesday morning, the 23rd inst., the most delicate sounds that could be produced on a single violin were clearly and distinctly heard, and without that excessive blending that sometimes takes place in an empty building. The effect of the presence of a large audience has of course yet to be tested; but as above the highest line at which an audience will be placed, there is an immense unoccupied space, and as the roof, from its shape and construction, will act as a gigantic sounding board, the effect of a concourse of spectators will be very much less than may probably be supposed.

**Important.**—14, Carr's Lane, Birmingham. Established 1861, for the sale of Pure Tea. Connoisseurs pronounce the Tea sold at this Warehouse superior to any that can be obtained elsewhere. Twenty-five per cent saved in value. [24

**Mutual Life Assurance.**—The advantages of the Scottish Provident Institution, as compared with other offices, are a greatly larger original assurance for the same premium, and eventually to good lives, as large additions as where the ordinary high rate of premium is charged.—For particulars, apply to Mr. A. Forrest, 10. Cherry Street, Birmingham. [105

**Maravilla Cocoa for Breakfast.**—The *Globe* says—Taylor Brothers' Maravilla Cocoa has achieved a thorough success, and supersedes every other cocoa in the market. Entire solubility, delicate aroma, and all the concentration of the purest elements of nutrition, distinguish the Maravilla Cocoa above all others. For homœopaths and invalids we conld not recommend a more agreeable or valuable beverage.—Sold in packets only, by all grocers. Sole proprietors, Taylor Brothers, London. [76

**Watkin's Toilet Club**, 6, Union Street.—Hair Cutting and Shampooing, 6d. Particular attention paid to the Hair Cutting, Clean Brushes and Towels. A large Stock of Headdresses, Plaits, Wigs, Braids, Fronts, &c., to select from. Orders taken are executed on the shortest notice; great care taken in matching the colour. Pomades, Lime Juice, Perfumes, Sponges, Combs, and Brushes in stock at the lowest price. N.B.—A large quautity of Perfume Fountains from 1d. to 1s. [95

**Advice to Mothers.**—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist, and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately: it is perfectly harmless: it produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It is very pleasant to take; it soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes.—Sold by all medicine vendors at 1s. 1½d. per bottle. [694

## AT HOME AND ABROAD.

The Alabama Question.—The following is a summary of a speech that has created a good deal of excitement with respect to the Alabama dispute:—General Butler made a speech on the 23rd ult., at Boston, in which he attacked Great Britain, declaring that she had founded the Canadian Dominion to cripple the United States. Upon the Republican party, he said, devolved the duty of securing a settlement of the Alabama claims, and it would be cowardly to wait until England was at war. If reparation was refused he recommended non intercourse. The withdrawal of American cotton and breadstuffs would inflict incalculable loss upon England, and America could readily secure other markets for those products. The cession by Great Britain of the naval stations at Jamaica, Nassau, and Bermuda would be regarded as a fair equivalent. General Butler denounced the course of Great Britain regarding the Fishery question as outrageous, and said if she persisted the certain result would be war. He alluded to the great temptations of the United States to make war with Great Britain. The United States had a million and a half of sturdy Irishmen eager for war, and the conquest of Canada would follow. As a Republican he declared that war would be sustained by the majority of the Democratic party, and the rule of the Republican party would thereby be perpetuated for generations. The intimate relations between General Butler and the President, and the current rumours that the General will succeed Secretary Fish, have drawn considerable attention to this speech. There are no indications yet as to who will succeed Mr. Motley.

A Romance in Humble Life.—At the Swansea Police-court on Saturday a middle-aged woman made application for a summons against a person under somewhat difficult circumstances. She stated that thirteen years ago she married one John O'Connell, who, soon after the birth of their second child, left her, and remained away. After seven years' absence she married one Wm. Beard, with whom she lived up to within a few weeks ago, when her first husband returned to Swansea and claimed her. With the consent of her second husband she took the first back to her home and lived with him, it being an understanding between them that, the first husband being of a jealous disposition, the name of the second was not to be mentioned in his hearing under any circumstances whatever. One evening, however, in gentle remonstrance with her husband for some exuberant manifestation of endearment, and forgetful at the moment of the change, she uttered the words, "Be quiet, William." Immediately on this inadvertent mention of the Christian name of the second husband, O'Connell told her to make her peace with everybody, for he would surely murder her. She subsequently found a razor secreted under his pillow, and, being afraid of her life, she sought refuge under the roof of the second husband, with whom she was now living. The conduct of O'Connell had become so violent at this, that she now prayed for a summons to bind him over to keep the peace towards her, she being afraid of her life at his hands. The summons was granted, and was made returnable on Monday, when O'Connell was brought up before the magistrates, and bound over to keep the peace for six months.—*Western Mail.*

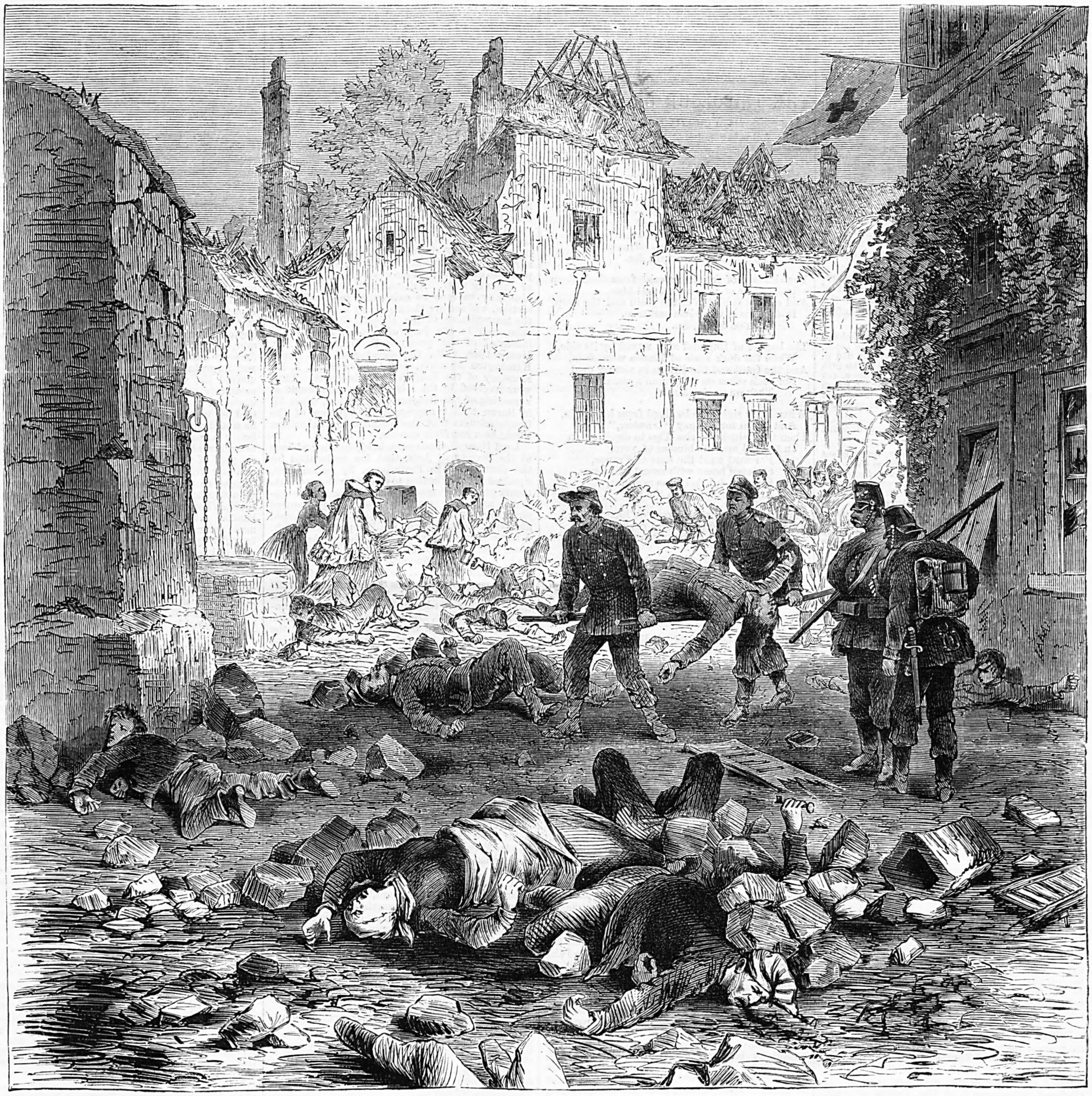
Brigandage in Spain.—The *Correo de Andalucia* publishes the details of the capture of brigands by the Guardia Civil in the neighbourhood of San Roque. Threatening letters have been received by various inhabitants of Estepona, Manilva, San Roque, and Casares, in one of which, addressed to Senor Don Manuel Salas, who resides near San Roque, a demand was made for 24,000 reals, to be delivered on the 6th inst., at some spot on the road between San Roque and the property of the Duke of Osuna. The authorities having been made acquainted with these matters took their measures accordingly, and on the 5th despatched a captain of the Guardia Civil with six men by night to take up their position near a shepherd's hut at Ormillo, where they expected that the brigands would keep their watch. As they anticipated, at daybreak on the morning of the 6th four armed men made their appearance at the hut, and the captain of the Guardia allowed them to enjoy their breaksasts in peace until eight o'clock, when he began to place his men silently round the building; unfortunately, while this was going on a dog rushed out of the hut, and seeing the Guardias, began to bark furiously. One of the brigands immediately rushed to the door and gave the alarm to his companions, who came out; their leader called to the captain to say that if he would not kill them they would surrender. The captain gave the necessary promise and stepped from behind a tree where he had taken refuge; no sooner had he done so than the chief fired, the shot passing through the captain's hat and wounding him in the head; the remainder of the brigands followed suit, the result of their fire being that one of the Guardias was mortally wounded. The captain then ordered his men to set fire to the hut, but on seeing that there were women and children inside he directed a bayonet charge instead. On this the brigands rushed into the open and a struggle ensued, in the course of which two of them were killed and one wounded; the latter, with the fourth, managed to make his escape. On the afternoon of the 7th the Gaurdias arrived at Casares, bringing with them the two corpses. They have since received officially the thanks of the Governor of the Province.

**For Table Delicacies, Desserts, &c.,** "Sea Moss Farine" is the most healthful, economical, convenient, and delicious food in the world. A Shilling Packet will produce *Sixteen Quarts* of Blanc Mange, Custard Pudding, Charlotte Russe, Floating Island, &c., &c. Sea Moss Farine is in a far more concentrated form than Corn Flours, Maizena, and other farinaceous or gelatinous articles. Its cheapness, wholesomeness, and simplicity of preparation will commend it to all Hotels, Families, and Restaurants. Sold by all Chemists and Grocers. Rand Sea Moss Farine Co., 266, High Holborn, London. [21

**Holloway's Ointment and Pills.**—Rheumatism, Neuralgia.—It is sometimes difficult to determine which of these diseases is afflicting the sufferer, but such uncertainty will be immaterial if Holloway's remedies be used. They alleviate and cure all muscular and nervous pains. In hereditary rheumatism, after bathing the affected parts with warm salt water, Holloway's Ointment should be well rubbed upon the spot, that it may penetrate and exert its soothing and regulating properties on the deeper vessels and nerves which being unduly excited, causes both pain and swelling. Holloway's treatment has the merit of removing the disease without debilitating the constitution, which was the inevitable result of the bleeding, mercury, and colchicum practice formerly adopted in these complaints. [42

## THE FORTRESS OF LAON.

This is the spectacle that presented itself in one of the streets of Laon after the mysterious explosion of a powder magazine which followed upon the capitulation. The fall of Laon succeded within a few days the great defeat of Sedan. The Germans took possession of the town and fortress on the 9th of September, and the explosion occurred at a very suspicious moment. The Governor, General d'Hume, had received the Duke of Mecklenburg at the citadel, and rendered up the keys. Many French officers had given their parole to fight no more against the German forces during the war. The men of the Mobile Guards had defiled out, and, scarcely had the last man got outside the gate when the great explosion of the powder magazine occurred. It was a frightful catastrophe, dealing death and ruin far and wide, killing and wounding some 400 of the Guard Mobiles and many inhabitants, knocking houses to pieces, injuring the grand old cathedral and the Palace of Justice, wounding Duke William of Mecklenburg with eight officers and sixty-three men of the Prussian troops, and killing the captain of artillery and sixty-three men of the force taking possession of the place. It was natural that a strong impression should exist that this deed was done as an act of treachery and vengeance upon the Germans, and it may have been so; but no evidence exists in confirmation of the suspicion, and since the explosion was more destructive to Frenchmen than to Germans, in the absence of proof it is perhaps better to attribute the unfortunate event to accident. If the deed were done in malice and misguided patriotism, it is well that the perpetrator was—as he undoubtedly must have been—among the victims; for he would have found small reason to congratulate himself upon his crime if he had lived to witness the harrowing scene depicted in our sketch. Laon had undergone bombardment, but the city in the neighbourhood of the citadel suffered more from this most untoward explosion than from the shells of the beleaguering force. Those who read only of the telegrams of the progress of the war, are apt to underrate the importance of the city of Laon, for, except by reason of this sad incident after the capitulation, the siege and fall of Laon has not attracted much attention. The city is placed on a lofty hill, and is reached by flights of steps and a zig-zag carriage road up the encampment. It has a magnificent Gothic Cathedral, seven hundred years old, very much in the style of that at Salisbury. In old times Laon was a place of considerable importance, and its bishop was one of the ecclesiastical peers of France. The massive tower of Louis d'Outremer, one of the oldest monuments in France, was pulled down for the purpose of building the citadel, which has come to grief so exceptional and tragic in this campaign. Among the remarkable monuments in Laon is a leaning tower, which was thrown ten degrees out of the perpendicular by an earthquake in 1696. It is somewhat curious that Laon was the scene of the first defeat of Napoleon I, in the campaign of 1814, when a superior force of the allies, under Blucher and Witzingerade, compelled the great imperial general to retreat towards Soissons, with a loss of 6,000 men, and 46 cannons. Laon and its district, like the rest of north-western France, has seen enough and too much of Franco-German warfare.



A STREET IN LAON AFTER THE EXPLOSION OF THE POWDER MAGAZINE.

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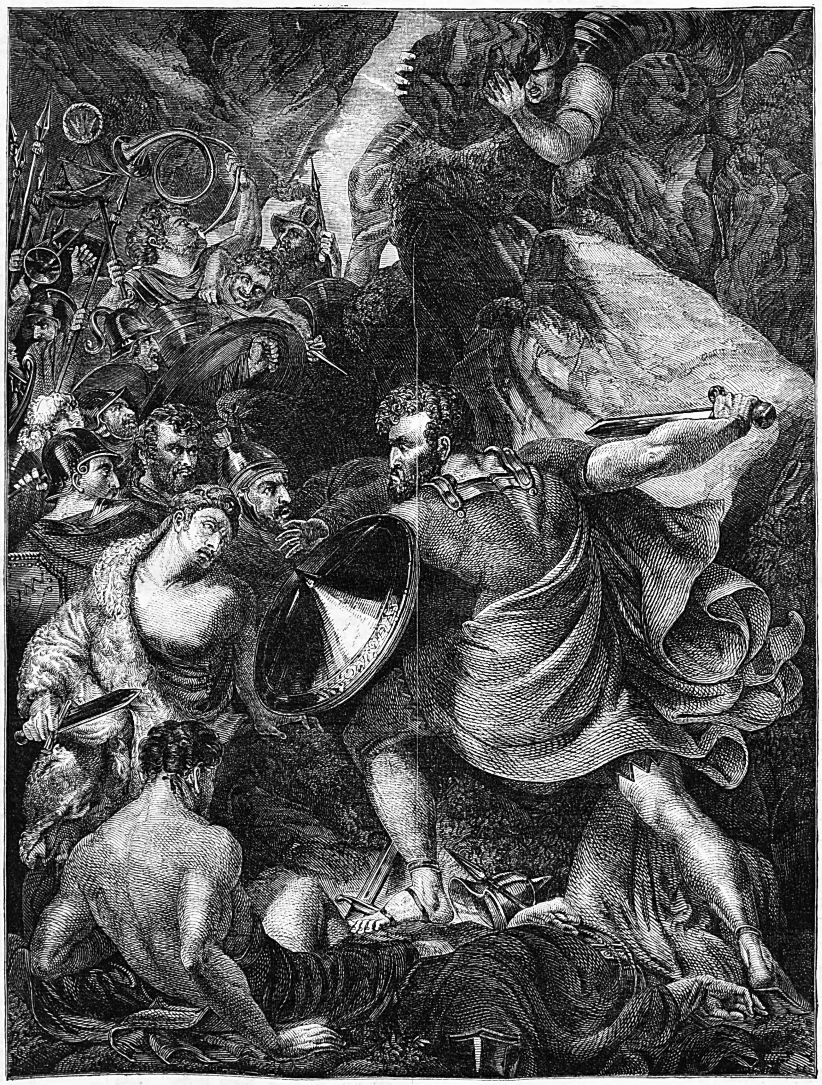
Paris Besieged by the English.—In 1359 Paris was again besieged by the English, who had sailed from Dover two days before the feast of All Saints with cries of "God and St. George." Marching through Picardy and Rheims, they in due course arrived at Montléry (seven leagues distant from Paris), and thence sent to Paris heralds to offer battle to the Regent, who, however, refused to come outside the walls at a disadvantage. It was at this time that the good knight Sir Walter Manny, eager for lance-breaking, requested the King to let him venture with some new-made knights as far as the barriers of Paris. The son of Sir Nicholas Dambreticourt, a squire of the body, the King had wished to be of the party, but, as the chronicler sarcastically perhaps mentions, the young man excused himself by saying he could not find his helmet. In these skirmishes many hard blows were exchanged, which ended by a French knight being captured by a stratagem before the English retreated. I am afraid we were cruel in those times. An eye-witness says, "No living being to be seen from the Seine to Etampes; all have sought refuge in the three faubourgs of St. Germain, St. Marcel, and Notre Dame des Champs. Montlhéry and Longjumeau are on fire—all round we see the smoke of burning villages rising to heaven. On Easter Day I saw the priests of ten communes officiate at the Carmelites; the next day orders came to burn down the three faubourgs. Some wept, others laughed. Near Chanteloup 12,000 persons, men, women, and children, threw themselues into a church, which was burned by the English, and not 300 escaped."—*Walter Thornbury, in Gentleman's Magazine for December.*

## DENTATUS.

This fine engraving of the late Benjamin Robert Haydon's fine painting known as the "Dentatus" is by Mr. G. P. Nicholls. Poor Haydon's own story is well known. He painted great historic subjects, on vast fields of canvas, and his contemporaries, though they acknowledged the nobility of his works, did not buy them. These magnificent subjects, grandly conceived, and made to cover so large a square surface that very few private individuals had walls spacious enough to hang them on, were admired, in a rather cold, abstract fashion, but people with money in their pockets did not see their way to purchase them, and so the painter got into debt, and had not wherewithal to eat and to feed his family, and cursed the age that did not appreciate him, and finally, in his great despair, committed suicide, in the year 1846, at sixty years of age. He had exhibited a painting at the Royal Academy nearly forty years earlier; that was the "Repose in Egypt." His second picture was shown in the same great gallery in the collection of 1809. This was the "Dentatus" represented in our engraving. Unfortunately for Haydon's content of mind, though not much, perhaps, to the detriment of the picture itself, it was hung first in the great room and then removed by the committee to another room. It is admitted that it was very well seen in its second position, but Haydon had one of those unhappily sensitive minds that insist upon taking offence on slight provocation; he complained bitterly of the injustice done him by the removal of the picture, and so took the event to heart that it seemed to cast a bitterness over his whole life. He was from that day at deadly feud with the Royal Academy as long as he lived, and attributed his want of success and prosperity mainly to "jealousy" of the "Hanging Committee." In the following winter the "Dentatus" was exhibited at the British Institution, where it gained the first prize of one hundred guineas. The composition is remarkalby bold and vigorous. It was painted while the artist was in his twenty-second year. The subject is rather a figurative representation of the extraordinary prowess of the ancient Roman General Dentatus than the pourtrayal of a particular feat of arms. M. Curius Dentatus was the most celebrated of the famous Curii, and earned his laurels in the early heroic days of the Roman Republic, in the third century B.C. His victories over the Sabines and Samnites were extraordinary and marvellous deeds of martial courage and generalship, and he did, perhaps, more than any one man besides towards establishing the great power of Rome in and around Italy. It is reported that in the grand ceremony on the celebration of his unparalleled victories over Pyrrhus and the Samnites, two elephants walked in the triumphal procession through the streets of the Eternal City, and those were the first elephants than had ever been seen in Rome since its foundation. At the conclusion of that war Dentatus retired to his farm in the Sabine conntry, and spent the rest of his days in agricultural pursuits, and when one day a deputation of Samnites waited upon him with costly presents, they found him seated by his hearth at his farm-house, roasting turnips. He refused the splendid gifts they offered him, and said he would rather rule over those who possessed gold than possess it himself. Haydon's picture of Dentatus is that of an ideal Roman warrior, in the very moment of fiercest strife and most imminent peril. His victories over Pyrrus, which, being his most famous achievements, are, no doubt, prefigured in this painting, were won upwards of two thousand years ago. Twenty centuries separate this scene from that on the page which faces it. The French and Germans of to-day are not one step in advance of the Early Romans of the times of Dentatus.

The *Orchestra* says Miss Herbert's health is much improved.



DENTATUS.—From the Painting by the late Benjamin Robert Haydon.

A Showman's Idea of a Good Town.—"There are not many good pitches in California now," said Mr. Alexander to us, in reply to how many towns in the State we could visit with a good chance of making money in each. Mr. Alexander had pioneered circuses and travelled with minstrel bands. To him, as to most old showmen, the excellence of a town consisted not in its architectural beauty, its historical interest, or its picturesque position, but in its capabilities as a place wherein to make money. The "agent in advance" surveys a town, and judges of it first to calculate the number of people in it who are likely to come to a show; and secondly, with regard to how many good walls it has for billing and posting. Mr. Alexander continued:—"Of course your best stands will be at Sacramento, Marysville, and Stockton. Folsom isn't much, and I guess you won't get much out of Oroville. North San Juan is a very good one-night town. So's Forest City. So's Downieville. Nervada City and Grass Valley are good one-night places for any show. Placerville's caved in considerably. Jackson will do for a pitch. So will Mokelumne Hill. Murphy's ain't worth shucks. You may make out at Sonora. Columbia's gone up. I can't say how Coulterville would turn out for you. If you go to Copperopolis tell old Cardinell at the Hall to let you have some music. Ione City don't count. Campo Seco's nowhere. San Andreas never was much, and it's wilted considerably lately. But there's Vallejo, and Napa, and Sonoma, and Santa Rosa, Petaluma. They are all good pitches. Dollars are lying around loose for you in all of 'em—you bet." "And how about San Jose?" "Shy. I don't go much on her—not for your show. She's a sweet little town for a circus."—E. P. Hingston's *Genial Showman.*

The Burial-Place of Hogarth.—Chiswick has some historical memorials independently of Hogarth. Sutton Court, near the Railway-station, though now a School-house, was formerly the house of Cromwell's daughter, Mary, Countess of Fauconberg. The once famous Devonshire Villa is associated with the artistic tastes of the Earl of Burlington and the political genius of Canning. The present stillness around the park gate contrasts forcibly with the eager excitement of the three thousand who assembled here on the morning of the 8th of August, 1827, to receive the news of the great statesman's death. Twenty-one years before, the same gate had been thronged by multitudes to hear the words, "Fox is dead." The Horticultural Fêtes no longer bring their floral holidays here, and Chiswick's great house, "The Duke's Villa," is but a memorial of men and things departed. Probably, then, the only existing inducement which might bring a stranger to Chiswick is, that here the former home of Hogarth is yet standing, and his grave is to be seen in the churchyard. If we may judge from one small incident, it seems to be the impression of the people round about, that the memorials of the painter are the special honours to this Middlesex parish. We inquired of a man connected with the railway, the nearest way to the church. "Ay, where the artist is buried," seemed plainly to hint that he was emphatically the painter of the people.—*The Quiver.*

Victor Hugo.—A new edition of Victor Hugo's long-prohibited *Châtiments* has been reprinted at Paris, with some new poems. One of them, serving as a preface, is somewhat auto-biographic, referring to Victor Hugo's exile in the island of Guernsey, and to his solemn oath not to enter France under the Second Empire. Addressing his country, he says:—"O France, thou wilt know that, though for a time I was eclipsed, yet I had faith in thee; and that I always had thee in my thoughts! Thou wilt permit me, on leaving the shade, to be thy child. Lately, in the days of thy orgies, in which joyous man shone, but had little faith;—when, dazzled by splendour, by triumph and dreams, thou didst dance; and when a prey to glittering lies of success thou didst sing;—when the vain parade of thy fête was heard, O Paris, I fled from thee, as the prophet escaped from Tyre; but when the Empire has changed from Gomorrah to Lutetia I have come from the isle of the sea to share thy great sadness. In that isle, listening to thy songs, thy delirum, and thy confused noises, I refused to visit thee; but to-day, when Atilla, with his dark legions, has arrived; to-day, when the world around thee is crumbling, here am I! To thee I haste, for on thee bombs and '*mitraille*' have 'spat;' thou wilt behold me either upright or laid low on thy ramparts; and, perhaps, on thy soil, where hope, that pure flame burns, thou wilt, O France, as the price of my exile, accord me a tomb!"

An Order from General Trochu.—General Trochu has issued the following order: "Despite orders most clearly expressed through newspapers and placards, to the effect that no person should on any account venture beyond our outposts, some inhabitants of Paris go out of the city on all sides in bodies into the open country. They advance thus, within the nearest range of the Prussian lines, being encouraged to do so by the previous conduct of the enemy, who seldom has molested them. The enemy, in defiance of all feeling of humanity, now continuously fires at unarmed men, and even at women and children. Several persons have thus been killed or wounded. The Governor of Paris, profoundly impressed with this state of things, which the outposts are unable to remedy, on account of the extent of our lines, acquaints all the inhabitants with these facts, and he adjures them no longer to infringe orders, the disregard of which has such painful consequences.—The Governor of Paris, General Trochu."

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| BROOCHES with PEARLS | £5 | to | £30 |
| BROOCHES with RUBIES | £20 | to | £100 |
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| EARRINGS with AMETHYSTS | £6 | to | £50 |
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| CLOCKS, ,, | £12 | | 12 |
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OUR EXTRA CHRISTMAS SUPPLEMENT will contain the Words and Music of a

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WRITTEN AND COMPOSED SPECIALLY FOR THE

*ILLUSTRATED MIDLAND NEWS.*

The Words are by Miss SYDNEY MOSTYN, and the Music by the celebrated

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The Air is one of the happiest of Mr. Russell's compositions, and bids fair to become as popular as his famous Songs, "There's a Good Time Coming," "Far, Far upon the Sea," the "Ship on Fire," &c.

We are making arrangements for giving PICTURES of the BIRMINGHAM CATTLE, POULTRY, and DOG SHOWS.

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NEURALINE.
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NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.—AGUA AMARELLA restores the human hair to its pristine hue, no matter at what age. J. GOSNELL AND CO. have at length, with the aid of one of the most eminent chemists, succeeded in perfecting this wonderful liquid. It is now offered to the public in a more concentrated form, and at a lower price. Sold in bottles at 3s. each, also 5s., 7s. 6d., and 15s. each, including brush. [851

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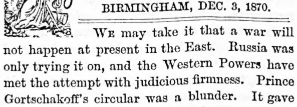
The Trade will be supplied with this paper in London by Messrs. Smith, 186, Strand; by Messrs. E. Marlborough & Co., Ave Maria Lane, E.C.; and at the London Publishing Office of the Paper, at 33, Essex-street, Strand. Annual Subscribers can be supplied by post direct from the Office, 108, New Street.



# The Illustrated MIDLAND NEWS

BIRMINGHAM, DEC. 3, 1870.

WE may take it that a war will not happen at present in the East. Russia was only trying it on, and the Western Powers have met the attempt with judicious firmness. Prince Gortschakoff's circular was a blunder. It gave the Count Von Bismarck a hole to creep out of; and he has, to all appearance, crept out of it. There is important and difficult diplomatic work yet to be performed, and the Powers must beware of Prussia; but with courage and judgment the threatened outbreak of a second war in Europe may be averted.

THE war in France is coming to a crisis. There will soon be a mortal struggle in which, if the French be defeated, their fate will be determined. The world has, perhaps, judged too hastily of the possibility of France making a determined and effective stand against their remarkably successful enemy. General Trochu has certainly not been holding out for the mere sake of postponing the date of capitulation. He must have seen his way to strike a really great—if not a successful—blow for the relief of the capital. It is impossible to deny that the good wishes of millions in Europe are for France in the coming encounter.

THE cumulative vote has been on its trial this week, and the results are very much in favour of the principle. It prevents that tyranny of the majority which has so often been a grievance to large, respectable, and intelligent minorities. In Manchester two Roman Catholic candidates for places on the School Board were returned at the head of the poll, all the Roman Catholics dividing their fifteen votes between these two men. On any other system it is hardly likely that a Roman Catholic would have got elected; but it cannot be contended that in a place like Manchester, where there are so many of the old communion, two representatives of that Church are too many out of fifteen. In Birmingham while we write the returns are not declared; but it is probable that the minority are over-represented, and the consequence will be that the majority will cry out loudly against the cumulative vote. But their complaint will be unjust and unreasonable. There were fifteen men to be elected, and every elector had fifteen votes. The League party put up fifteen candidates, and advised their supporters to give a single vote to each of the fifteen. The opposing party put up only eight candidates, which rendered every one of their votes nearly equal to two of the Leaguers'. It is believed that seven out of the eight are elected. If this be so, it only proves that the League party were too greedy, and did not properly measure their strength. Instead of returning only seven or eight candidates out of fifteen, they would probably have carried in ten or eleven if they had offered only ten or eleven candidates. The system requires careful and judicious working, but the principle is one of great promise

## THE ROYAL BIRMINGHAM SOCIETY OF ARTISTS.

[FOURTEENTH NOTICE.]

601. "Near Braemar." Miss F. C. Jolly.—It is hung too high to be properly seen, but there is no doubt about its being poor.

602, 603, 604 and 605 are hung too high for us to pass an opinion upon them.

606. "Gossips at a Well." R. H. Giles.—The principal woman is not a good figure.

607. "Sweet Summer-time." F. Hinkley.—The most absurd attempt at painting we know of.

608. "Chrysanthemums." Miss L. H. Aston. —Natural. Painted with neatness and taste.

609. "Loweswater, Cumberland." The late A. Pailey.—A little too warm in colour.

610. "Berncastle." Mrs. W. Oliver. — Too highly coloured especially the sky.

611. "Blossoming." Miss F. C. Jolly. Very poor.

612. "Evington." W. Amos.—Gives promise of better things to come. Parts of it are nicely done, but it is a little all-overish in colour.

613. "Morning." L. C. Sansom.—Not a bad little picture, but we think it a mistake to call it "morning."

614. "On the Harlech Sand-hills." R. S. Chattock.—Crude. An attempt to get a peculiar effect, and a failure. The Harlech Sand-hills seem to be a favourite theme for artists, but if the pictures stand for aught there is nothing very picturesque in them.

615. "Toviette." Miss A. Bouvier.—The trees are nicely painted, but it is not effective.

617. "The Evening Meal." H. Key. — A failure.

618 and 619 are hung too high to be properly seen.

620. "The Bridge at Beddgelert." Miss F. C. Jolly.—An eyesore.

621. "The Bather's Meadow." A. Corbould. —Amongst the worst attempts in the Exhibition.

622. "On the Coast, North Devon." Jane Deakin.—Pretty bit of sea scenery.

623. "The Beach, near Scarborough." George Wolfe.—The sea is capitally done, and the distance is well rendered, but the rocks seem to be composed of cork—they are not solid and heavy.

624. "Light in the West, Dixmude." Wyke Bayliss.—Good and true effect. The light is capitally rendered.

625. "Old Books—Lamplight." Agnes M. MacWhirter.—A peculiar but very clever picture. We do not think Old Books could have been transferred to canvass more faithfully.

We shall conclude our notices of the pictures in our next number.

DEATH.—On the 21st ult., at her residence, East-street, Leicester, aged 65, Ann, relict of the late John Stert Cowper, High-street, Leicester, and mother of William Cowper, Temple Row, of this town.

THE HUNT.—The North Warwickshire Hounds will meet on Tuesday at the "Black Dog," Stretton on Dunsmore; Wednesday, Solihull Station; Friday, Apchurch; and Saturday, Spernal Park.—The Duke of Rutland's Hounds will meet on Saturday (to-day) at Goadby; Monday, Belvoir; Tuesday, Little Ponton; Wednesday, Three Queen's; and Friday, Barkston-in-the-Willows. Each day at eleven.

## LITERATURE.

THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR: its Causes, Incidents, and Consequences. Edited by Captain Hozier, F.C.S., F.G.S. With Topography and History of the Rhine Valley, by W. H. Davenport Adams. Published by William Mackenzie, at Glasgow, Edinburgh, and London.

This is a serial work, of which the first division lies before us. It is issued in monthly parts, five of which make a division, and it is expected, but not positively promised, that the work will be completed in six divisions. It takes up the war from its commencement, with a review of the events which led to it, and will pursue it to the end, whether that be near or remote. The first section gives a brief but carefully compiled history of Europe from 1815 to 1870, so as to familiarise the reader with the positions and relations of the various powers, and the aspect of public movements at the time of the outbreak of the war. This is to be followed by the diplomatic and military story of the campaign, and the whole will be supplemented by a topographical and historical account of the Rhine Valley and the Seat of War. The feature that first attracts notice in this division is the illustrations. The frontispiece is a charming view of Strasburg. The vignette to the title-page is a pretty sketch of Lake Constance. Other steel plates are portraits of Napoleon III. and General Garibaldi, and several scenes on the Rhine. Then follows a capital map of South Germany, an excellent carte of the battle of Wissemburg, showing the disposition of the armies, and a plan of Metz and its fortifications. The introductory chapter is an admirable review of national events and political movements on the Continent during the last half century, forming a key to the progress of German unity, the growth of the Eastern Question, the changes that have taken place in Italy, the story of the Papal Sovereignty, &c. In the second chapter we have a biography of Louis Napoleon, and a lucid summary of the events of the Second Empire. At this point, in order to meet the natural craving of the subscriber to a serial work for some account of the war itself, the preliminary history breaks off, and three chapters are devoted to the outbreak of the war. A third part of the division commences a history and description of the Rhine Valley. These little irregularities render the parts more interesting month by month, while they allow the compiler of the history of the campaign time to collate and correct his facts; and the binder will arrange the chapters in proper order when the whole work is completed. In these days of newspaper reading, people are apt to be exceedingly well acquainted with current events, and to be comparatively ill-informed as to what took place while they were at school, or before they entered upon the scene. Most readers know something of history, as they are familiar with what has occurred since they emerged from childhood; but there is a period between history and current history, which a work like the one before us, independently of its direct purpose of narrating the story of the campaign, is well calculated to enlighten us upon. Captain Hozier's "Franco-Prussian War" will place the young man who recollects no further back than Lord Palmerston's day, on a par with his father who recollects the French Revolution of 1830, and his grandfather who watched the consequences of Waterloo. We shall look with interest for the forthcoming part of this work, and report upon the manner in which Captain Hozier acquits himself of his somewhat arduous task.

THE BELGRAVIA ANNUAL. By M. E. Braddon. This is the first of the "Christmas Numbers" that has come to hand. Let us hasten to say—before the others arrive—that it is excellent, and deserves to get the start of its rivals. It is more like a thick volume than a mere extra number of a monthly magazine. There are in it one hundred and twenty-eight pages of seasonable fiction and not less seasonable poetry. Two of the stories are by the editress, the author of "Lady Audley's Secret," and they are good samples of little modern Christmas romances, with just a spice of the ancient flavour. Of course George Augustus Sala, Walter Thornbury, Albany Fonblanque, and Dutton Cook, are among the contributors, and there is a smart little tale by Mr. Archibald Forbes, the gentleman who, as war correspondent for the *Daily News*, recently stole a march upon the representatives of all the other papers, by telegraphing more than a column of exclusive information about the fall of Metz as soon as the surrender was announced. The *Belgravia Annual* will form a pleasant addition to the fireside pleasures of the coming Christmas tide.

### ALMANACS.

We have four almanacs. The first is *Thorley's Illustrated Farmers'*. The little work is illustrated in colours. The frontispiece is Thorley's Spice Mill at King's Cross. The book includes a farmer's diary and cash account pages for every month, and the appendix contains much matter, entertaining and useful, relating to rural life. Next we have a prettly little illustrated publication called *Everyone's Almanac*, with a page of Family Prayers to face the calendar for January. The same principle of contrast is carried out through the work. For instance, at the foot of the first page, side by side, are these two paragraphs: "An Infidel Silenced;" "Notes on Gardening." At the end are "Christian Weights and Measures," of which the following is an example: "A Christian yard is 36 inches, and is not shortened by the handling of the stick." In the notes to December, girls are besought to "Beware of Transient Young Men."—The *Animals' Friend Almanac* is a sheet to hang upon the cottager's whitewashed wall. It is adorned with five really fine woodcuts of the stag, dog, cat, horse, and ass. These two almanacs are published by Partridge and Co.—A capital local almanac is *Osborne's Midland Counties Farmer's*, published by Mr. Osborne, of 84, New-street, Birmingham. It is a diary as well as a calendar; it gives all the fairs and markets; instructions for farming for every month; ditto gardening; and a large number of useful agricultural articles and statistics.

The Christmas number of the *British Workman* contains four remarkably good full-page wood engravings, in the style of art rendered familiar by this publication, which has forced its way, and done good among the working classes, by virtue of the quality of its "cuts with a moral lesson."

## AMUSEMENTS IN THE MIDLANDS.

BIRMINGHAM.—At the Theatre Royal "The Flying Scud" has been the attraction for the past week. This drama, which has been witnessed by good houses, has been followed by war songs—Rule Britannia, La Marseillaise, and the Watch by the Rhine—which have been performed with great credit.—Mr. Toole entered upon an engagement at the Prince of Wales Theatre on Saturday, when "Uncle Dick's Darling" was played to a crowded house. A lengthy description of the piece will be found in our last number under the head "Bristol" in the "Amusement" column. Mr. Toole was as funny as pathetic, and as entertaining as ever, although he was not supported so well as when he played *Uncle Dick* here some months ago. Then Mr. Irving took the part of *Chevenix*, and gave a new interest to the play by his very clever and natural acting. The public, however, go to see Mr. Toole who, fortunately, seems always the same, and can always amuse, whether he be well supported or not. "Uncle Dick's Darling" was followed by "Oliver Twist." Mr. Toole, of course, took the part of *The Dodger*, and kept his hearers in continual laughter until the curtain fell. The other characters were wretchedly done. "Uncle Dick's Darling" has been continued during the week to crowded houses.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Saturday's performance at the Prince of Wales Theatre commenced with "Married and Settled," followed by "The Anchor of Hope," or the "Seaman's Star," in which Miss Ruth Edwin, Miss Emma Mason, and Messrs. Hastings, Fisher, and Christy took part, each sustaining their characters creditably. A varied programme has been presented for the amusement of the public during the past week, consisting of songs by Mr. John Blanchard, the performances concluding each evening with "Mr. and Mrs. White," in which Miss Ruth Edwin and Mr. Fossitt have appeared.

BRISTOL.—On Monday evening, the favourrite drama "Peep o' Day" was performed at the New Theatre, with all original spectacular effects. The attendance was somewhat limited, but those present evinced their hearty approval, in a demonstrative manner, of the completeness with which the piece was put on the stage. The scenery is very striking and effective, and the plot discloses many interesting features of Irish life and character. The pattern fair, the jig, and the faction fight were extremely amusing. At the close of the piece, Messrs. Fosbrooke and J. H. Slater were honoured with a call before the curtain. The performance concluded with the Princess's version of the "Corsican Brothers."

NOTTINGHAM.—The usual order of theatrical performances has been somewhat novelly diversified this week by the introduction of the "drawing-room entertainment" of the Brothers Lenton. They are three clever acrobats. Their feats are, for the most part, new, and all are neatly and skilfully performed. On each occasion of their appearance, the Lentons have been received with enthusiasaic applause, and their engagement proves attractive to the public. The wants of playgoers have not been neglected. Sheridan Knowele's drama of "William Tell," and a stage version of Dicken's story of the "Cricket on the Hearth," having been produced. In the former, Mr. Clarance Holt as the Swiss patriot has maintained his high reputation, his rendering of the character being distinguished by remarkable fidelity. In the scene where *Tell* appears before *Gesler*, his acting was most telling, his open defiance of the tyrant, and the interview with his son Albert being especially praiseworthy. In the "Cricket on the Hearth," Mr. Giddens had no light task assigned to him in the character of *Caleb Plummer*, for, besides being a very young man, he had to guard against a too servile imitation of the great master, Toole. We must say, however, that he acquitted himself very favourably indeed. He was well supported by the other members of the company.

## THE MESSENGER.

I heard the brown bee in the clover-field humming,
And these were the words he was whispering low,
"Listen," he said, "for thy lover is coming—
I saw him pass by where the red lilies grow.
I was down on the lea, where the first bud uncloses,
Watching the red leaf unrolling for me,
And I saw him pass by with a bouquet of roses,
And I knew he had gathered the garland for thee.
And 'Ho, ho!' laughed the starling, 'our bonnie-eyed darling
Knows not that her lover is coming—does she?'

"I turned from the bird in contempt at her chatter—
She is such a gossip, and that I detest—
And I said, 'If she knows, or knows not, it don't matter;
And, ma'am, I advise you to go to your nest.
There are things that we all would be better for leaving
And letting alone, and this gossip is wrong.'
Then I flew straight to you, for I knew you were grieving,
And wondering why your love tarried so long.
Now, don't think I *listen*, but I saw the tears glisten,
And heard you this morning break down in your song.

"And I said, 'I will fly to to the bonnie-eyed maiden,
And tell her her lover is nearing her side—
That I saw him go by, and the whole air was laden
With the breath of the roses he plucked for his bride.'
I trust you will never accuse me of prying,
But know that I meant to do all for the best."
And the bee flew away, and my heart ceased its sighing,
And fluttered and beat like a bird in the nest;
And my raven-tressed lover came up through the clover,
And kissed the glad face that he drew to his breast.

## GOSSIP.

The health of Mr. Falconer is improving, though slowly.

A "Séance de Magie Rose" is announced for next week at St. James's Hall, by M. Ernust Comus.

The *Musical Standard* says that Madame Parepa-Rose will return to America early next year.

Mr. Mill is to set forth his views on the obligations of treaties, in detail, in the forthcoming number of the *Fortnightly Review.—Echo.*

The *Musical Standard* says that Mdlle. Nilsson will go to St. Petersburg on the termination of her American tour.

Miss Broughton, the author of "Red as a Rose is She," is engaged on a novel which is meant to appear with the next spring flowers.—*Athenæum.*

Miss Victoria Vokes, who played "Amy Robsart" the other night, has been presented by Mr. Chatterton with a bracelet, in recognition of the service.

Handel's Concerto for the Welsh Harp is announced for publication, under the editorship of Mr. Brinley Richards.

The Christmas piece at the Globe Theatre is to be by Mr. F. C. Burnand, on the well-known fairy tale of the White Cat.

Mr. E. M. Barry, R.A., has left England on a professional journey to Egypt, in connection with new hotel projects in that country.—*The Architect.*

The *Musical Standard* says that M. Vieuxtemps, the great violinist, is at present in the United States, performing with the Nilsson troupe in Boston, with all his admirable skill.

The gossips are again busy on the subject of Mdlle. Nilsson's matrimonial intentions, asserting "on authority" that she is engaged to marry a Parisian stockbroker, named Rousseaux.

The first performance in London of Mr. Benedict's oratorio, "St Peter," is announced for the 13th of December, with the aid of Mr. Barnby's choir; the chief singers will be Mdlle. Tietjens, Madame Patey, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Raynham, and Herr Stockhausen.—*Athenæum.*

M. Alexandre Dumas, the distinguished romancist, was much fatigued by his late journey to Spain, and with the long and remarkable work on the life and country of the Cid, to which he has just put the finishing touch.

The admirers of Mr. Herbert's grand fresco in the Houses of Parliament, "Moses giving the Law on Mount Sinai," will be glad to learn that the same artist is engaged upon a companion work, "Daniel giving Judgment in the case of Susanna and the Elders."

Early in the new year the Royal Court Theatre in Sloane Square, will be opened as a place of fashionable entertainment. The house has been reconstructed by Mr. Walter Emden, who performed the like office for the Globe. A new comedy by Mr. W. S. Gilbert will form the opening piece.—*Echo.*

A "National Elementary Education Series of School Books for the Children of the People," has been projected, and is being carried forward by Mr. Blanchard Jerrold. The three first volumes, which are on the point of appearing, indicate the character of the undertaking. 1. "The Best Teacher; a Primer, Spelling, and Reading Book, designed to teach the child his first lessons from the book that should be read always." 2. "Shakespeare's Primer and Spelling Book, designed to teach children their earliest lessons in the English of Shakespeare." 3. "Jeremy Taylor's Reading Book, teaching the young and old the rules of holy living and dying, from the pages of the writer whom Emmerson has called 'the Shakespeare of Divines.'"

LECTURE AT EVESHAM.—On Wednesday evening, Mr. Jabez Inwards, of London, delivered a lecture on "Life Assurance and its Advantages" in the Town Hall. The Mayor (W. T. Allard, Esq.) presided, and briefly introduced Mr. Inwards, who, in a clear, homely yet forcible and eloquent style, delivered an address of upwards of an hour's duration upon this subject. The philosophy, the importance, and the general practicability of Life Assurance were fully enlarged upon. The address was of a most interesting and entertaining kind, and was pre-eminently calculated to impress upon the audience the utility and wisdom of providing for the future, not selfishly for one's self, but for those for whose care, protection, and provision the husband and the father have become responsible. The lecturer concluded by illustrating the principles and security of the British Equitable Assurance Company, an office which he represented. The detailed particulars given of this society seemed to prove its healthful constitution, which placed it out of such danger as that to which "The Albert" had succumbed, though Mr. Inwards confidently asserted that this last-named unforunate company would very soon pay off in full the whole of their liabilities, as £90 in the £100 had already been offered. Mr. G. B. Hudson, of Bricklehampton Court, and Mr. G. Bulford, of Aston Park, Birmingham, also spoke in favour of assurance, and closed by proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Inwards for his address. This was duly awarded and acknowledged, and the passing of a similar compliment to the Mayor for presiding, brought the meeting to a termination.

PUNCH AND THE EDITOR.—I once stood nearly half an hour with Mark Lemon looking at a Punch in Southampton-street. We stood in a doorway, and enjoyed the show immensely. Going to our rooms afterwards, he said, "What do you think my cabman had arranged for my especial honour?" One day in the week it was Mark Lemon's custom to visit the leading contributors to *Punch* in the way of business relating to copy and drawings. He employed each week the same cabman, who had bought a new Hansom for the editor's weekly rounds. "The cabby has built or bought a new Hansom for me, and had arranged to have a figure of Punch painted upon the panels. He thought it best to speak to me before ordering the work to be done, he said. I told him he was quite right in his judgment as to the desirability of consulting me; that I was much pleased at his intended mark of attention in the matter of the painting, but that I would rather the cab were not embellished; that such an advertisement was not to my taste. The fellow to this day thinks I am a foolishly modest and unassuming man in consequence. I expect he would have liked to have done up the Hansom in the style of a circus car. He might have written upon it, 'Here you may see the fat man!'"—"*With a Show in the North,*" *in Gentleman's Magazine for December.*

"I had been several days suffering severely from diarrhœa accompanied with intense pain, when a fellow-traveller recommended Davis's Pain Killer to me so strongly for it that I tried it, and found almost instant relief, and I can now do no better than recommend it as strongly to others.—HENRY J. NOONE, traveller for Clement & Co., *Burton-on-Trent, Nov. 14, 1868.*

## NEW PATENTS.

Improvements in electro-magnetic engines. J. F. Wiles, London.

Improvements in wheels. J. H. Carruthers and S. Alley, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, N.B.

Improvements in and applicable to knitting machines. A. Segard, Arvilliers, Somme, France.

Improvements in furnaces for metallurgical purposes. J. H. Johnson, London. (A communication from A. Ponsard, Paris.)

Improvements in and apparatus for manufacturing gas for illuminating and heating from coal oils. W. Wilson, Manchester.

Improvements in the manufacture of leather for mill bands. E. Moss, London. (A communication from H. Klemm and C. Klemm, Wurtemburg.)

Improvements in sewing machines and in machinery or apparatus for winding the thread on to the spools or bobbins. W. Winter, Leeds, Yorkshire.

A new or improved machine for washing and cleansing floors and other surfaces. W. Kay, Edinburgh, Midlothian, N.B.

A new or improved machine for dressing and separating the fibres of certain fibrous substances, the same being specially applicable for heating rhea or china-grass. D. and J. Greig, Edinburgh, Midlothian, N.B. (A communication from J. Greig, jun., Nassick, British India.)

Improvements in machinery for manufacturing wire ties for securing bales of hay, cotton, and other merchandise. D. C. Flower, Lancashire.

Improvements in the manufacture of tin and terne plates. E. Morewood, Glamorganshire.

Improvements in machinery for binding, wrapping, and forming cigars. W. E. Newton, London. (A communication from S. Scholfield, Bhode Islands, U.S.)

Improved strapping motion in mules for spinning. A. Metcalf and W. Gibbons, Preston, Lancashire.

Improvements in copying presses. W. Spence, Middlesex. (A communication from J. Fenson, York, Canada.)

Improvements in cleaning and polishing coffee, and in apparatus employed therein; applicable also to the cleaning and polishing of grain and other produce. W. Newell, Pimlico, Westminster.

Improvements in the manufacture of elastic and fabrics. A. Purner, Leicester.

Improvements in distilling and rectifying and in apparatus employed therefore. E. Nignier, London.

Improvements in the process of and machinery of cleansing and finishing carpet fabrics. J. Wilkinson, jun., Leeds, Yorkshire.

Improvements in the production of certain metallic alloys, and in furnaces employed in the process. J. A. Keates and J. F. Allen, St. Helens, Lancashire.

An improved method of impressing, gilding, and printing on the edges and covers of books. R. Leighton, London.

Improvement in cut-off valve gear for steam engines. D. H. Biaudon, Rouen, France. (A communication from D. F. Mosmau, Suffolk, Massachusetts, U.S.)

Improvements in the manufacture of brattice cloths used in coal and other mines. J. A. Timmis, Manchester.

An improved machine for cutting millboards, cards, and similar materials to a required breadth and length. H. J. Williams, Surrey.

Improvements in rasps and files. W. R. Lake, London. (A communication from J. F. Thompson, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.)

Improvements in printing and dyeing textile fabrics and yarns. J. Lightfoot, Lancashire.

(*Patents upon which the £50 Stamp Duty has been paid*).

Improvements in the construction of packing cases, and in the mode of locking the same to secure them against clandestine opening. G. Turner, Dublin, Ireland.

Improvements in the manufacture of cutting tools and in the construction of tool holders. J. P. Smith, Lanarkshire, N.B.

Improvements in machinery for cutting or dressing stone, and in apparatus connected therewith. C. Coates, Lancashire.

Improved apparatus for making extracts from bark and other substances. A. V. Newton, London. (A communication from J. W. Jones, Cumberland, Maryland, U.S.)

Improvements in machinery or apparatus for cutting woollen and cotton corduroy or other similar fabrics. W. Cotton, Yorkshire.

Improvements in vessels and apparatus for the preserving and more convenient use of unguents. J. M. Napier, Lambeth, Surrey.

Improved combined machinery for printing. J. Fraser and G. Duncan, Liverpool.

An improved mode of treating cotton seed to obtain oil therefrom, and in machinery employed therein. S. Rose, Oxton, and R. E. Gibson, Cheshire.

Improvements in the preparation of sulphate of magnesia, applicable to the treatment of the crude potash, salts of staffult, and the refuse from the manufacture of chloride of potassium. C. Albisser, London. (A communication from J. Vorster and H. Gruneberg, Cologne, Prussia.

Improvements in machinery for grinding bones, ores, and other substances, a part of which improvement is applicable to foot-step bearings generally. J. H. Johnson, London. (A communication from E. P. Baugh, Philadelphia, Pensylvania, U.S.)

An improved apparatus for obtaining motive power. W. Starkey, Yorkshire.

Improvements in reaping and mowing machines. R. Hornsby and J. E. Phillips, Lincolnshire.

Improvements in condensers. E. A. Pontifex, London.

A new or improved candle-dipping machine. J. Beatty, Ireland.

FACEACHE, TOOTHACHE, TIC DOLOREUX.—ADAM SMITH'S NEURALGINE effects a certain cure.—Depot, 39, Ann Street. Sold by all Chemists; and J. Yardley, of Bloxwich. [107

THE PRESENT SEASON.—Crichley, Wilde, and Co. are now showing a large section of their Patent Air Warmers; also, the Patent Terra-Cotta Gas Stove, which is entirely free from smoke or smell. New pattern Hot-Air Stoves for Halls, panelled with Encaustic Tiles. Churches, Mansions, Shops, &c., heated on the most approved principles. Show Rooms, 5½, 6, and 6½, Cannon Street. Works, Bordesley. [119

Artificial Teeth. Painless Dentistry.—Notice of Removal. Established upwards of Half a Century. Mr. GABRIEL, the Old-Established Resident Dentist, from 65, New Street, to 11, *Bennett's Hill* (next to the Bank of England). Daily attendance from nine a.m. until six p.m. Single Teeth from 5s.; complete Sets from £5.

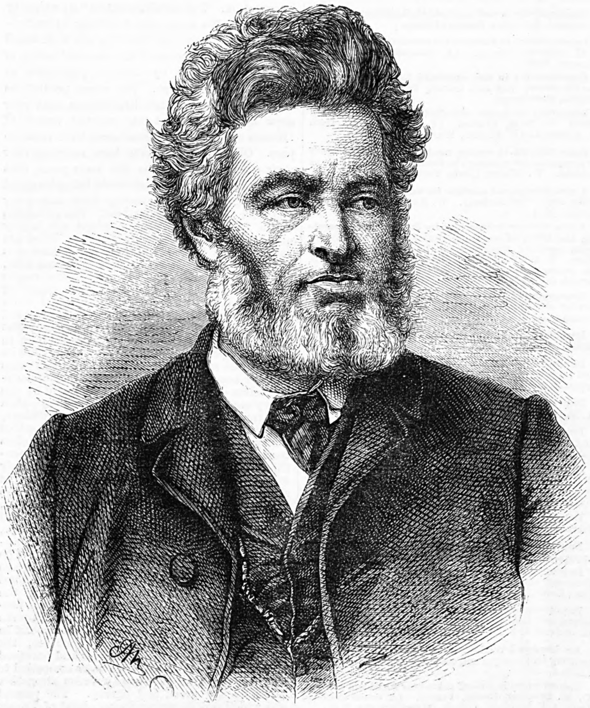
PURE WATER.—ALFRED BIRD, Experimental Chemist, begs to announce that he has perfected his new CARBON FILTER, price 7s. 6d. each, which he guarantees shall deliver 60 gallons of the purest water daily.—To be seen in action at 69, Worcester Street, Birmingham. [930

ONE BOTTLE DID IT.—That is the expression of many who have had their grey hair restored to its natural colour, after using one bottle of MRS. S. A. ALLEN'S World's Hair Restorer. It is not a dye, it can do no harm. Every one who has used this preparation speaks loud in its praise. If you wish to restore your hair as in youth, and retain it through life, without delay procure this preparation. Sold by all Chemists. Depot, 266, High Holborn, London. [32

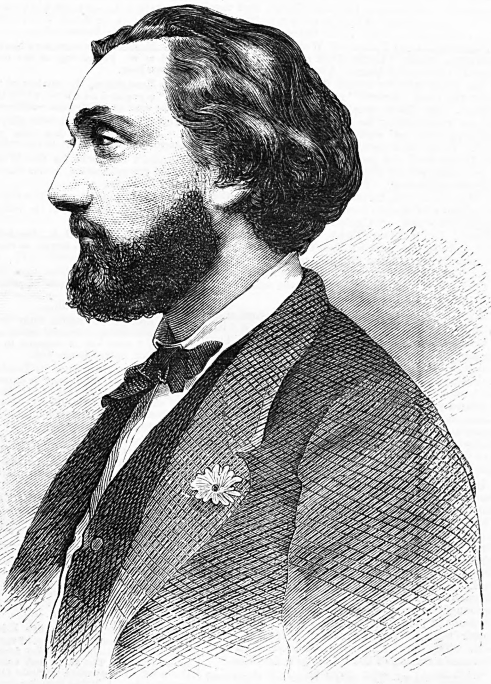
## STUDIES FOR THE TIMES.

Under this head the *Gentleman's Magazine* has some smart and well-written remarks on the state of our relations with Russia and the policy of non-intervention. The article is signed "By a County Member." We make the following extract:—"It is neither here nor there to say that we all knew what would come of the so-called policy of peace, inaugurated by Quaker platitudes at Christian tea-meetings. The worst predictions of the most pig-headed Englishman that ever grew hot and cold at the martial sound of 'Hearts of Oak' on a brass band, have come to pass. Old fogies, who have been swearing over their older port any time this forty years, that changing swords for ledgers would bring England to the dogs, to-day will thump their mahogany and refer to their past assertions. The principles of the Bright and Gladstone school are highly moral. Nay more, they are angelic. They are based in the holiest and best aspirations of a virtuous people. If we had angels to deal with, angels for subjects, angels for neighbours, angels for allies, angels for foes, an angelic policy of liberty and love and mutual trust would be in perfect order. But there is more of the devil than the angel abroad. Even in Protestant England it is acknowledged that we are born in sin and shapen in iniquity. What, then, shall be said for the rest of the world? If all these years we have been simply legislating for our immaculate selves—shut in from the rude world by the glassy sea, as my friend Lytton would say—then free-trade tea meetings, Brummagem petitions, and St. Stephen's occupied by a government of vestrymen, might have represented a harmless recreation and a virtuous exercise of moral sentiment. But for a nation which possesses nearly five hundred million square miles of territory, in all parts of the world, to be governed upon the principles of Mr. Bright's carpet warehouse, toned down by the sophistries of Lowe, and sweetened by the economics of The Noble Savage, is a position sufficiently humiliating to be understood by all the other peoples of the earth. The world has paid dearly for the political successes of the Manchester school, whose pretty moral notions have sapped for the time being the Anglo-Saxon strength of some of our most promising statesmen. The policy represented by the present Government has kept the whole world in an unhealthy ferment. Even Theodore, the dusky monarch of Abyssinnia, saw and practised upon our parsimony, until we were compelled to show Eastern nations that we were not altogether eaten up by greed and luxury. The present war which is decimating the manhood of France and Germany is the result of England's modern ideas of non-intervention. To go back to the Crimean war itself, Russia continued her aggressions because she did not believe we would fight. The Czar's ambassadors advised him that England, casting aside her old traditions, had entered upon a now epoch, which had for its motto, 'Peace at any price.' Lord Russell's encouragement of Denmark's resistance to the demands of Prussia and Austria led to the merciless slaughter of that plucky little State. The tragedy thus commenced had its principal scene at Sadowa; and Paris beseiged is the sequel to Sadowa. England out of the way, the ambition of the more powerful nations of Europe breaks out with demoniac force and heat. It is the mission of England to stand between these contending passions, and the present condition of Europe is the penalty of our withdrawal from that grand *rôle* among nations which a mysterious Providence has assigned to us. It has become too much the fashion to decry ourselves, to regard the old British boast of superiority as an arrogant assumption; and in doing so we have repudiated the responsibilities of greatness. Surely this is only the pride that apes humility. The *Times* has told us that we have no business to interfere with the arrangements of other countries; and that we are not a military nation. Solemn ignoramuses who retalk the *Times* at their clubs have gravely shaken their heads and said, 'No, we are not a military nation; let us mind our own affairs, and not interfere with other people's.' Indeed! not a military nation? Will you be good enough to read your history, my friend; and not make yourself ridiculous because the *Times* chooses to cover the cowardice of the Government and its hatred of France by a phrase. As for the notion that we ought to isolate ourselves from the rest of the world, this is all very well for gentlemen who regard England as a close borough, to be governed by rule of thumb; but, ye sugar and carpet philosophers, pray look at Mr. Wyld's map of the world, and point out the spot that is untrodden by the English; and show me the sea where the English flag is unknown. This little island called England is only an integral portion of the mightiest land, if not the happiest. In India and the colonies we have a hundred and seventy millions of people. How many of these have settled down in distant climes relying upon the protection of the mother country? The English language is permeating all lands. It promises to be the language of commerce throughout the world. Our people are everywhere upon the earth. They are to be found on all lines of travel, and outside the recognised limits of safety. Everywhere they leave the seeds of new life. The world is full of their axioms and their Bibles. The British bugle awakens the echo of forest and mountain in lands that Bruce and Ayrton never heard of. No right to interfere! What nation has a greater? Non-intervention has well-nigh sounded the death-knell of England's honour and the safety of her sons in many a land beyond the seas.

THEATRICAL WIGS, WHISKERS, &c.—The Largest Stock in Town, for Sale or Hire. Private Wigs from 10s. to 100s. Hair Cutting, Brushing, and Shampooing, charge 6d. Immediate attendance. Respectful attention by first class Men from the best houses of London, Paris, and Berlin. The largest and best 6d. and 1s. bottle of Pomade in the trade; has had an immense sale for eighteen years. Choice Hair Washes, from 1s. 6d. Lime Cream, from 1s. Genuine and delightfully perfumed Lime Juice and Glycerine, from 1s. to 6s. A very large assortment of Hair, Tooth, Nail, Hat, and Cloth Brushes, by best makers, from 1s. Dressing Combs in *Tortoiseshell, Bone, Ivory, Horn,* and *Vulcanite*, from 6d. A splendid variety of fancy Back Combs, from 1s. to 50s. Large selection of Fans from 6d. to 60s., including the newest shapes and patterns. The largest stock of Toilet Requisites and Fancy Goods in the Midland Counties, selected from the best houses of Paris and London, at STEELE'S, HAIR CUTTER and ARTIST in HAIR, Opposite the Railway Station, New Street, Birmingham. [591



M. JULES FAVRE.



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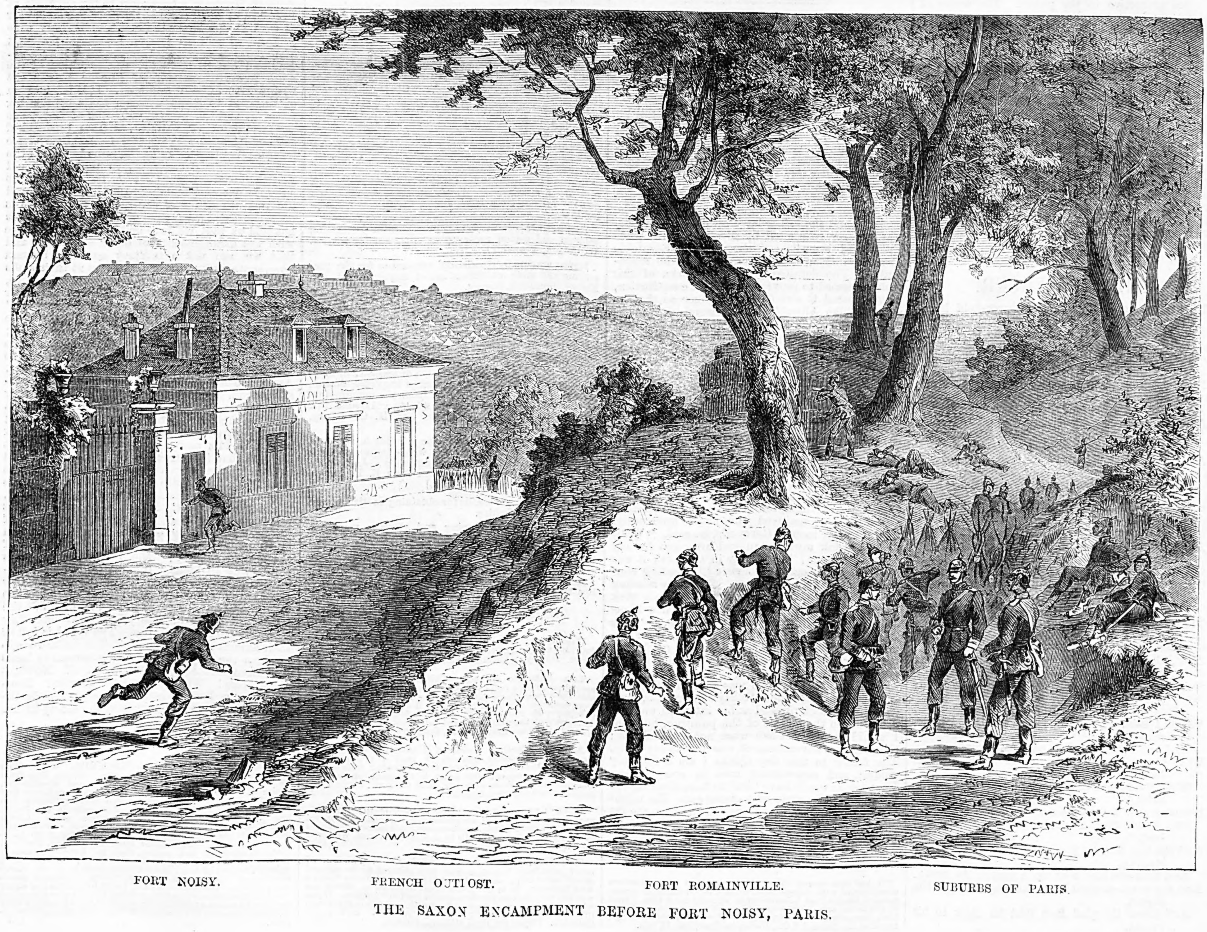
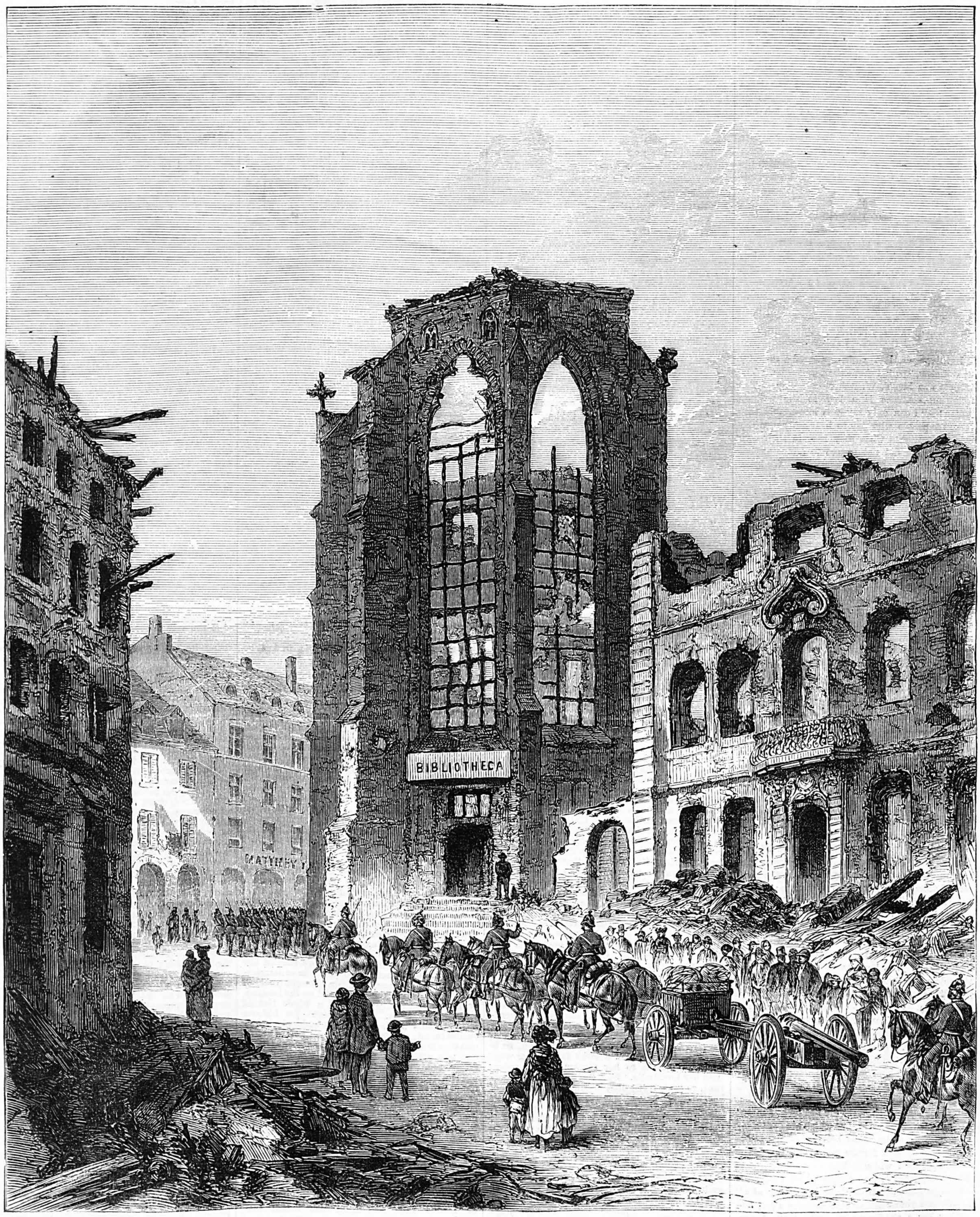

FORT NOISY.
FRENCH OUTPOST.
FORT ROMAINVILLE.
SUBURBS OF PARIS.

THE SAXON ENCAMPMENT BEFORE FORT NOISY, PARIS.

## STRASBURG LIBRARY.

This picture would make a text to preach from on the advancement of the age. That ruined tower, containing the ashes of priceless manuscript books, lost now for ever like the works in the Alexandrine Library, is a monument of the Vandalism of the year 1870. The charred and blackened skeleton ought to remain as it is, a mark of shame to this generation, and a tell-tale to our children of the deeds their fathers were capable of. We would not have it removed; the stones should be as the Prussian fires left them; the flakes of parchment and paper, with indecipherable marks upon them to show where the crystallised thoughts of learned men were preserved and destroyed, should lie upon the blistered floors till they fell into powder, and travellers should come and see what sort of things King William and Napoleon III. and the people of two of the foremost nations of the world, employed their time and energies upon in these days of which we boast so much. The story of the burning of Strasburg Library by Prussian shells is too familiar by this time to need repetition here. In these pages we have discoursed more than once upon the event, and given all the facts concerning the value of the books, and the irremediable nature of the mischief that has been done. It is enough, therefore, this week, that we place before our readers a sketch of the ruin as it appeared after the bombardment, and when the conquering troops passed through the grand old city which had been so cruelly maltreated. Our engraving is taken from the original sketch, made on the spot, by Herr R. Aszmus, a German artist, who entered the city with the party of soldiers who took possession of Strasburg after the capitulation. The word library—"Bibliotheca"—over the old doorway still remains, like a grim jest. It is a library now without books; a sad fable, with a moral which Frenchmen and Germans must read with shame so long as one of them lives to share the awful responsibility of the Franco-Prussian Campaign of 1870.



STRASBURG LIBRARY AFTER THE BOMBARDMENT.

Henry Russell, of "Cheer, Boys, Cheer," fame, has written a Christmas Song for the *Illustrated Midland News*.—*Echo*.

# THE A.B.C. OF ORNAMENTAL DESIGN.

### BEING A COMPLETE PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE ORNAMENTAL ART OF THE WORLD IN ALL AGES.

### ELIZABETHAN AND LOUIS QUATORZE.

We give variety to our series by interposing a couple of beautiful plates of later styles of Ornamental Art. Elizabethan, on which we propose to dwell at greater length in connection with further examples, is a partial elaboration of the Renaissance. It was introduced into England from the Low Countries, and was, in its earlier developments, a mixture of Dutch and Italian features. After a time it assumed a character of its own. The first examples date from the commencement of the sixteenth century, and the period of its decline commences with the seventeenth. A strong tendency has been manifested to revive Elizabethan forms during the last fifty years.

The Louis Quatorze style followed the decline of revived classic and Elizabethan. It is highly ornate, and depends more upon the artistic use of light and shade than upon beauty of colour or elegance of form in detail. We shall render a description of the peculiarities of Louis Quatorze ornamentation to accompany succeeding plates.

# TABLE TALK.

In this paper, last week, appeared a curiosity of criticism, quoted from the *Athenæum*. The subject was Mr. T. W. Robertson's plays. The following sentence is a key to the writer's notion:—"I can only say it is lamentable that there are people who pay to hear other men say behind footlights what they hear in their own houses." We did not expect to arrive at that frank expression of a critic's opinion. We knew that was what he meant, from the very opening of the article. We are used to this class of opinion on matters of art. It runs through a great deal that we hear and read. But the gentleman who takes Mr. Robertson to task is the first writer we have met with for a very long time who has plainly confessed to the principle that lies at the basis of his judgment. We never see this view of things peeping out of a man's criticism, or plainly acknowledged as in this case, without marvelling much at the inner life of the critic. We commiserate the fate of the man born into an existence so eminently unsuited to him. What a world must this be to him—what dry sticks all the people and things around him! There is no drama, no comedy, no tragedy going on under his eyes day by day. The children playing in the corner, the light that flashes over the mother's face when the best-beloved babe comes toddling into the room, are to him not pictures at all. The precious light and shade of character passing over the words and acts and movements of his friends—charming to the student of human life as a strain of fine music—are to him unworthy of note. All that is common, everyday life. It is "lamentable" that a man should take any interest in it. He may tell you that is not his meaning, but don't believe him. He will profess to have a human interest in what is said and done in his own house, protesting that he only objects to seeing the same sort of thing represented on the stage; but he deceives himself What a man loves he cannot easily have too much of. He whose heart is set upon young children—though his own house is full of them—wants them everywhere, in the streets, at church, in pictures, on the stage. His heart turns a little cold when they do not appear in some form or character upon the panorama—real or artistic—which passes before him. He who delights in watching the current and the issue of the drama of domestic life as it works itself out on the common stage of human nature, is greedy of the same sort of thing behind the footlights, and cannot be surfeited. The critic to whom we refer quotes a passage from Mr. Robertson's "Society," in which a pair of lovers are saying to each other those trifling things which in themselves are not by any means declarations of affection, but which are eminently calculated to assist in the betrayal of the latent tenderness of each for the other, and this is the comment:—"I will not deny that this is true to life—everything is true to life which represents lovers as idiots." Now there is nothing at all idiotic in a young fellow leaning over a girl and asking her a simple question about the fancy-work she is employed upon; and the words are none the more idiotic if the young fellow is in love with the girl. We may suppose the author of the play measured up, in his imagination, the sort of dramatic effect that the little words and acts would carry, entrusted to good comedians, and he probably had certain comedians in his mind's eye who would know what he meant, and make the scene real to the audience. Such must, indeed, have been the fact, for that very scene has been from the first a favourite one on the boards. The playwriter, therefore, seems to have known his business better than the critic. In life most things are more or less interesting, and therefore more or less worthy of being illustrated in art; but the one class of mind not interesting is that to which real life is arid. Save us from the company of the man who can only enjoy that which is unreal because he has looked at the world as it is, and found "nothing in it."

At table, as in the streets and public places, it is impossible to help noticing the existence of a purely sentimental feeling of sympathy with the French people in their trying position. This is, as far as may be judged from appearance, a something independent of the merits of the quarrel between those two countries, and it seems to reveal a growing tendency towards a close friendship between the two peoples. This is a matter of some importance to Englishmen, because, when this war is over, French and Germans will go on hating each other a good deal worse than of old. That is very sad, but there is no reason why we should not profit by it. The Germans expelled from Paris three or four months ago, will not be in a hurry to go back after the war, and the French will not be eager to receive them. They filled a large number of situations in offices and hotels, and acted often as interpreters. What an opening this will be for young Englishmen wanting situations of that sort and anxious to widen their experience. Waiters, clerks, and smart young men generally of an adventurous turn of mind, there will soon be a chance for you if you will but rub up a little your smattering of French—by far the most quickly acquired language spoken in Europe.

There are some slight indications that tobacco-smoking is a little on the wane in this country. Out of every hundred men we meet there seems to be a larger percentage who do not smoke than might be noted ten years ago. Perhaps not quite so many youths are adopting the habit. What do the statistics of the tobacco-trade say, after taking into account the increase of population?

# WHY DON'T THEY MARRY?

"Why don't they marry?" is a question that young ladies and anxious mammas often ask, and will never cease asking until the one only satisfactory answer is given, "They have married." Be ours the task to point out one of the chief impedments to matrimony. This imposes the duty of looking at the subject in its least lovely aspect, in its prasaic troubles and inglorious cares. Very different is the cue of the novelist. These things he keeps most religously out of sight. His readers are presented with fascinating pictures that heat the imagination. They feel grateful to him for the illusions, although they are not helped one step towards realising the blissfull visions upon which their imagination feeds. Now if we had no stomachs, if nature had kindly furnished us with an epidermis proof against the extremes of cold and heat, the treatment of the novelist would be as comprehensive as it is delightful. But our constitution is very different. In the lower classes it is well known that the marriage-rate has an intimate connection with the price of wheat; and in the highest, money has a great deal to do, not with the desire for matrimony always, but certainly with the execution of it.

Who are accustomed to complain that men don't marry? Not the working class. A mechanic just out of his apprenticeship is as able to support a wife as he is likely to be at any future period of his life. Unless he hopes by saving money to rise out of his class and become an employer, he has little inducement to refrain from marriage. It is where gentility begins, and the hankering after gentility, that the disinclination of men to pass under the yoke becomes apparent; and the more genteel the grade the stronger does the reluctance become. Shopkeepers and clerks, who have aspirations towards, if not affinities with, higher circles, hold out longer. Doctors, as becomes creatures higher in the scale of being, reach maturity considerably later: as for young solicitors and barristers, they seem almost like the angels in heaven, who neither marry nor are given in marriage, although, we fear, there the comparison ends.

While in the ascending scale there is a growing unwillingness to contract marriage, the usefulness of the wife appears to diminish. The wife of a working man is cook, housemaid, everything; all the manifold forms of service developed by the division of labour are summed up in her own person. When the poor woman, as is too often the case, has a large family, her work is, in proportion to her strength, more severe than her husband's. She costs less than a servant, so that, if she dies, leaving young children, her widower has no alternative but to marry again. If we measure her services in money, they will compare favourably with her husband's; indeed she contributes to the common expenses, if not to the same amount, at least equally according to her strength. Can the same be said of a wife in the middle class? Her position is greatly superior. She is infinitely better provided with the necessaries, and has almost exclusive enjoyment of the luxuries of life. She is released from domestic drudgedy, her chief serious occupation being to look after servants. The pay has grown better, while the work has become less. Does not the lady get more and give less than the working man's wife? But, it may be said, the same is true of her husband compared with the working man. It is one of the stock reproaches of proletariat orators against the present distribution of property, that the harder the work the less is the pay. There is, however, a clear distinction. Where men are highly paid, their work must be of a kind that few are actually found competent to perform, or it is such that no one can do it without a long and expensive preparation. Great artists command their own price, because the public prefer to compete for the works of the best men, rather than to remain content with the productions of those who are only a little way from the front. A doctor is more highly paid than an apothecary, because the profession involves a more expensive education. But those reasons do not seem to have much application to women. Every girl is, or is fondly believed to be, able to manage a household; and the education of girls is neither so protracted nor so costly as that of boys. Women, and especially literary women, when given to magnifying their office, may demur to this view. We may be told that the management of two or three servants is a gigantic undertaking. Women of an active disposition make work for themselves wherever they are; but their energy, when confined within the four walls of home, is rather mischievous. Having no sufficient occupation, they "meddle and muddle;" they worry the servants, they keep the house in a turmoil, and achieve a barren perfection by sacrificing all real comfort. Viewing the wife as a housekeeper, we fear her value cannot be rated very high. There are few housekeepers who are not very much cheaper. If a man marries for the sake of housekeeping, he has a decidedly poor bargain.

But the accomplishments! Of course there is music. If ladies can be said to serve an apprenticeship to anything, it is to the piano. Surely, then, here is the equivalent. It is this which makes up for the small value of the housekeeping, and restores the balance; so that, after all, a lady is as much worth her position as is the wife of a working man. We doubt it. Music is useful to a young lady as a subordinate instrument for accomplishing her matrimonial projects; it helps to remove the chill that etiquette wisely interposes between the sexes; it warms the atmosphere, and aids the nascent growth of youthful passion. But after marriage the piano generally becomes silent when the music of the nursery begins. Husbands who like good music find it better elsewhere; to all others the musical prospect adds a new terror to matrimony.

Still, it may be urged, the moral influence of woman is of incalculable value; were that impaired, goodness and refinement would disappear from the face of the earth. Something like this is the teaching of positivism. The function of man is intelligence, the function of woman is affection; he represents force, she morality. Whatever truth may be in this opinion, it does not affect the comparison we have instituted between the lower and middle classes. The influence of woman is not confined to ladies. But the great difference is this, that whereas the moral virtues of his wife costs the working-man nothing, the same virtues in the middle class are reckoned as an equivalent for the husband's earnings. Admitting, then, everything that can be urged for the value of woman's influence, the hard fact remains that it makes a wife an expensive luxury for a gentleman. It is a luxury that cannot be widely diffused. If marriage is to be common, it must be cheap.—*Examiner*.

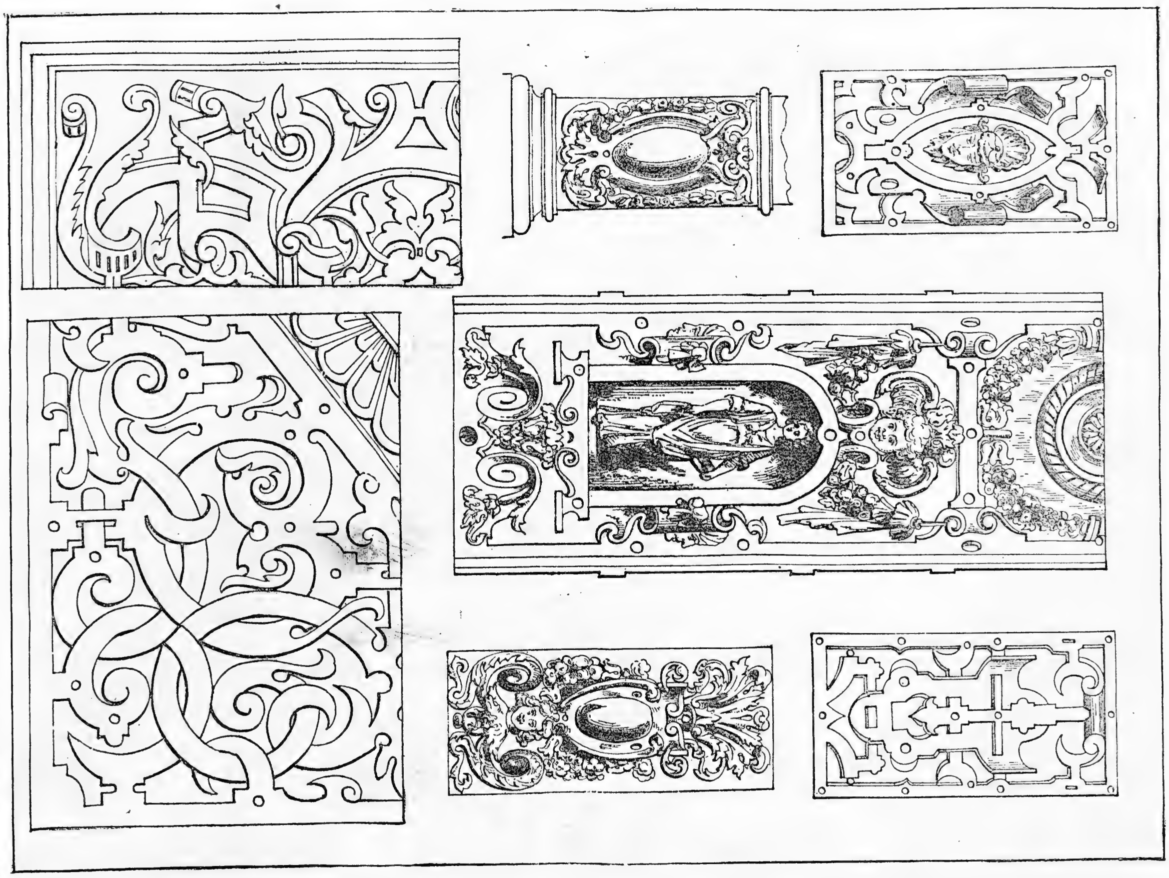
# "PAINT AND PATCHES."

A pretty woman of an interesting age is a pure fiction, a poetic creation of the toilette, who blooms like some rare flower in the evening, but only to fade in the morning. She is, in fact, so encrusted with deception, that it is difficult for a veteran about town to believe that anything more than a mere framework exists beneath the glow of her paint and cosmetics, aud the graceful folds of her superb costume. Her complexion is, of course, a perfect work of art, exquisite indeed, but evanescent. Few painters know how to cover canvas with such faces as one sees at a fashionable assembly, and it is really saddening to think that they are unreal, and, like the wondrous creations of a fairy's wand, must become haggard and wrinked in the light of day. The darkly-pencilled brows of the beauty are indeed pencilled; she knows how to give a false lustre to the eye which tolerably replaces the fire and expression of youth, and how to heighten the effect of paint, powder, and glycerine, by the powerful contrast of court plaster.

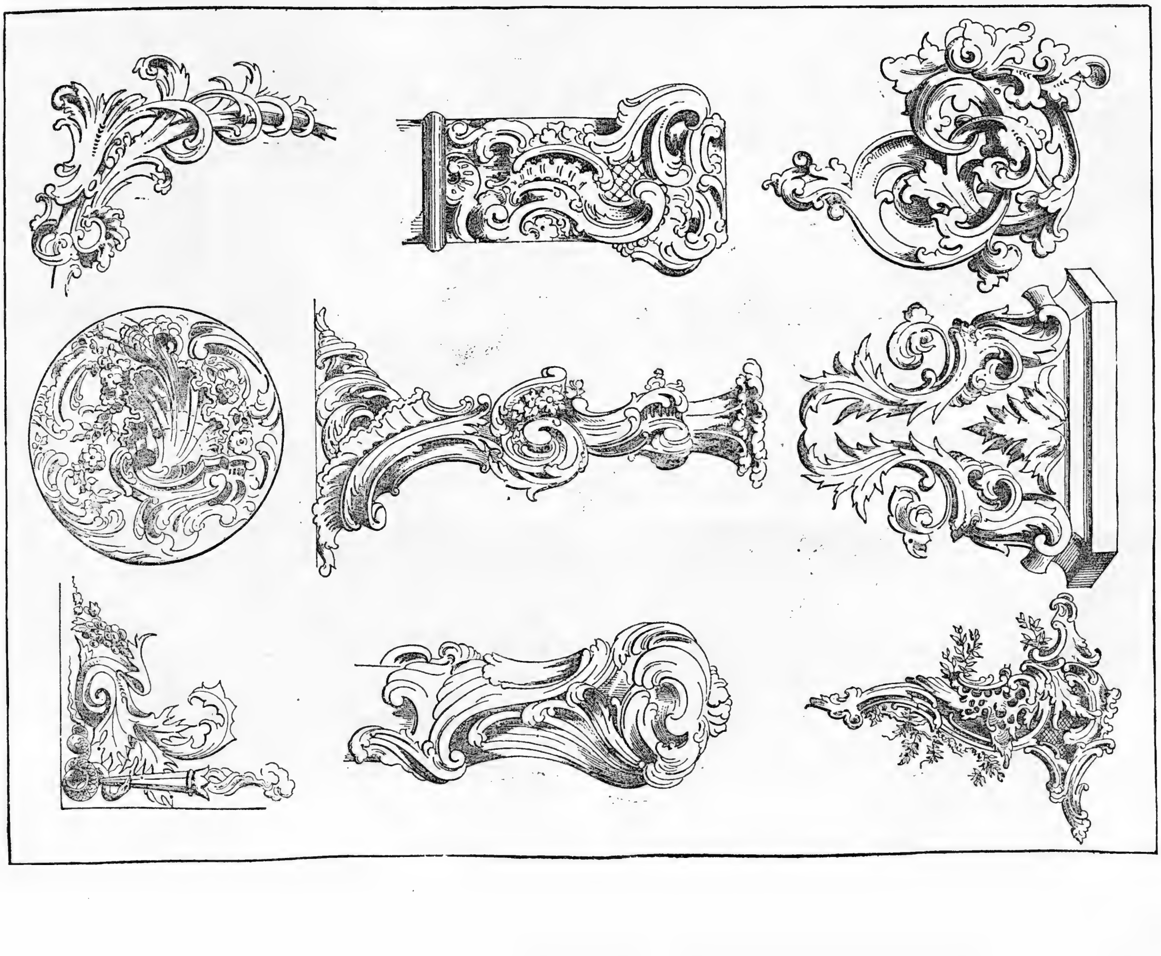
Your heart never even flutters when you pass the charmer's in the glare and glitter of the drawing-room. You know how unreal are the graces which you see around you, and you have seen the fair creatures under every guise of fashion. A year or two ago they rustled past you enveloped in clouds of costly silk inflated by the artful crinoline, wrecking the numberless trifles on side tables, and taxing the ingenuity of the masculine animal to avoid entanglement in the endless folds of their cocoons. You studied the art of leading a beauty five yards in circumference down to dinner, and you thought yourself an adept if you did not "ground" on the landing, or get hopelessly "foul" of a whole tier of charmers at table. You thought the hideous fashion would never go out, but suddenly, as by enchantment, the fair triflers stood before you in classic costume, akin to that of the ancient Greek, and now with panniers in front and rear, their figures remind you of staid and matronly market women, whose charms have stiffened and solidified under the ruthless hand of time. Still, the dear creatures look charming to those boobies who imagine every folly of fashion a new grace or a grand discovery for enhancing the effect of the female form divine. The infatuated creatures who worship at the shrine of "Paint and Patches" resolutely refuse to believe in the unreality of the picture which the beauty presents to their enraptured gaze. All this is real to them—the bloom on the cheek is no mere affair of the power-box. no mystic concoction *à la Rachel*. The hair which floats so gracefully in the perfumed air, or frizzed into something like teased tow, inspires wonder and awe, is genuine in colour and quantity, and the very affectation of the siren's accents is but the music of a soul which is too artless and too pure to descend to vulgar deception. The good and innocent masculine animal believes in his idols, and would not for worlds seek to understand the hidden mysteries of his religion. All women are angels, and beautiful; he has no sisters, and never saw a fair one in deshabille or in anger; he has never been behind the scenes; and the curtain of society always rises for him on fair forms and the silvery music of women's voices. Nothing is so charming as faith and trust like this—men who have been buffetted upon the stormy seas of theological controversy have often been heard to envy the child-like faith of the peasant who tells his beads ignorant of the changes of opinion, and cares nothing for the mere distinction of casuists and schoolmen. And so men of the town, who have once believed in the reality of female charms, envy the verdant innocence which sees goodness in every woman, and beauty beneath complexions which have been laid on with the trowel.

Of course we are willing to admit that all a woman's deceptions are legitimate, and we have little of serious import to say against them. If it is the business of her life to attract the inferior animal, no one will blame her if she attempts to heighten the effects of nature by the superior attractions of art. Youth is evanescent, and a dozen seasons commonly leave their mark on the female soldier of fortune; one cannot be a veteran and retain all the freshness and vigour of a recruit, and of all battle-fields that of fashion is the most trying. What man, for example, would mind facing the hardships of war on the Continent, the cold ond wet bivouac, the sortie, or the siege? Honour and glory are to be won, and the casualties of war are but the blanks in the lottery which every warrior makes up his mind to face. But in society, as the few streets in Belgravia are called, a ball is a more serious affair than a pitched battle, and the round of gaieties in the season are more trying to the temper and constitution than any of the hardships of military life. No man who has had opportunities for close observation will say that women are delicate creatures, too fragile for the trials and strife of the world. The most ethereal of them all would dance you out of breath, or survive unharmed the most vulgar and crowded of levees. Still, with all their native vigour of constitution, fashionable life tells upon them, and the marks of a social campaign are not easily effaced. Many a feminine veteran who can conceal her scars readily enough, finds it difficult to hide the careworn look which no cosmetics can entirely efface. But these are the old campaigners, wearing perhaps trophies of many a victory gained over man, but betraying to the experienced eye the grand fact that they have been often under fire. The women to whom "Paint and Patches" readily impart something of the lustre of early youth, have merely entered that mystic period of life when the touch of a skilful pencil lights up all their fading charms. The great masters of painting have done much to exhibit female beauty in its highest ideal, but, wonderful as are the efforts of genius, they fade and are nothing compared with that occult art which transforms the fading sireen into a Venus or a Hebe. If you have ever had the good fortune to see a woman in the morning in her unguarded moments you will appreciate the fine skill which can work a miracle like this. Her appearance shocks you, her complexion which last evening was pearl and rouge is—now, dare we say it—buff, prosaic unromantic buff! The cloud of hair—a woman's cloud of glory—is gone, lying perhaps on the dressing table amid the combs and cosmetics, and the other paraphernalia or the toilette, and the few locks which remain are twisted and plaited into whip cord over a brow which begins to show the first lines of care or thought. You discover the dreadful fact that the woman you once thought the perfection of matured beauty is plain, and that time is doing its cruel work with a face which once seemed to you to be proof against decay. You miss the artificial graces of manner which captivated you, and perhaps you hear the goddess address her servants in angry and coarse tones, which are utterly unlike the silvery accents that yesterday fell on your ear like the notes of a dulcimer. The vision has flashed before you but for an instant, for what woman in the dreadful undress of the morning would willingly show herself to any one but a husband or a brother, but in that instant you have seen enough to destroy the fond illusions over which you loved to dream. You have learned a terrible lesson, and your feelings are by no means enviable. Just as the raw youth, fresh from the provinces, imagines the green-room of the theatre to be an abode of beauty, so you have looked upon the superior sex as beings too noble to be regarded as mere mortals. They were angels in disguise, always beautiful and graceful. Yet you had learned something of life, you had seen, for example, a dragoon on parade in all the glorious panoply of war, and that same soldier in his stable dress—dirty, miserable, and a perfct sloven. You knew a man could not always be on parade, but you were silly enough to imagine that women could be constantly posed for effect, and that for them there was no such thing as undress costume; no moment when the cumbrous war dress could be laid aside. You now, of course, unjustly distrust the whole sex; the scales have fallen from your vision, and you look critically on the dear creatures upon whom you once gazed, like a true artist, with no eye for anything but the effect of the whole picture. The art which conceals art from all but experienced eyes now no longer mystifies, and, like the surgeon who regads the human frame as a mere machine of bones and muscles, you look upon every woman as a fearfully and wonderfully made doll, interesting from a scientific point of view, but no longer a witch whose potent spells can enchant or enthral. "Assuredly," you reflect, "if no man is a hero to his valet, no woman is a beauty in deshabille, and in the cold, searching, grey light of morning." Hasty generalisation, however, is always unjust; that some women are mere pictures may be readily allowed, but to assume that all are equally indebted to the toilette for their charms is obviously unfair. Faces which are innocent of the trowel of Madame Rachel and her school are common enough. But, unhappily, public taste has become so vicious, that unsophisticated nature does not charm the common eye as readily as the painted creatures whose foibles we have endeavoured to sketch. Silly girls, whose complexions are too pure to be heightened by any any of the dark secrets of the toilette, yet attempt to add a bloom to their otherwise fair features by the odious glycerine and pearl-powder. Fools, perhaps, may be attracted by these transparent tricks, but no man who knows ought of life cares anything for a woman who is not content with such beauty as nature has endowed her with. But the rouge-pot has had its day, and with the destruction of the frivolous and vicious tastes of Paris we may hope for a return of common sense, and for the satisfaction of seeing the girls of the period without the war paint of the fashionable savage.—*The Civilian*.

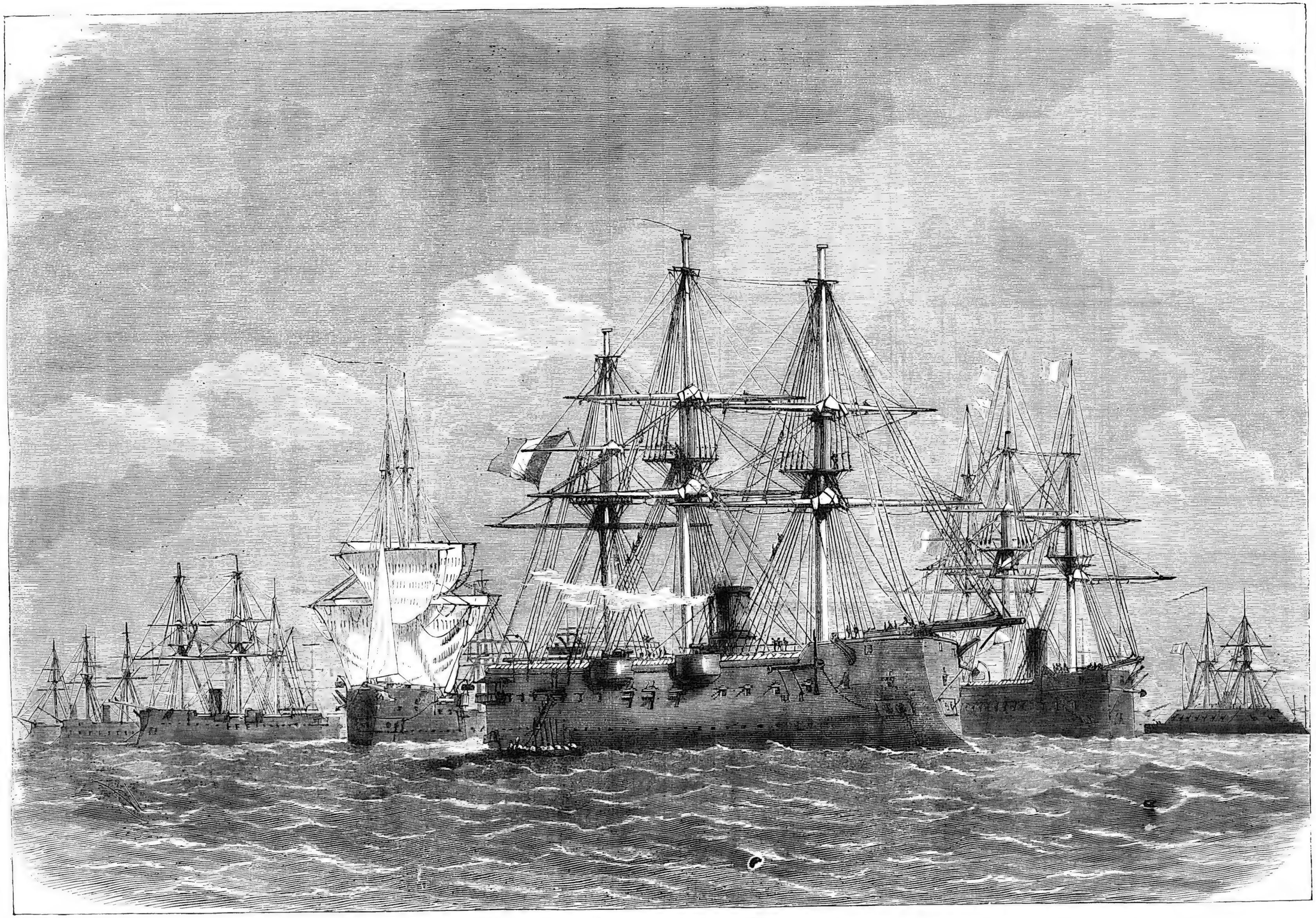
THE A. B. C. OF ORNAMENTAL DESIGN.—To be Continued.



ELIZABETHAN.



LOUIS QUATORZE.



FRENCH IRONCLADS OFF HELIGOLAND. *(See page 354.)*

# SKETCHES BY "PHIZ."

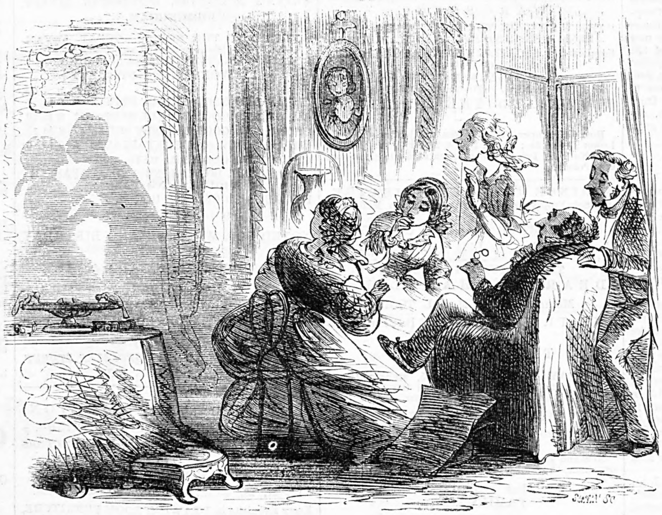
## THE SHADOW KISS.

Lured by the shadowy hour and
nook,
The proffer'd pledge she coyly
took;
When, lo! by our unlucky fate,
In silhouette, our tête-a-tête,
Noses and pouted lips were all
Obliquely shadow'd on the wall!

So, when the footman brings in tea,
Sombre are they, and scarlet we:
The lamp has prematurely shown
A truth we had not dared to own:
Small thanks to light untimely
cast—
And yet this kiss was not our last!

Two deep bay windows lit the room
In which we watch'd the evening
gloom;
In this myself and Lucy sat,
Pater and maiden aunts in that;
The gaslight on the flags below
And on our ceiling cast a glow.

While pater and his coterie
Talk'd matters parliamentary;
Or rul'd, with solemn shake of
head,
How prudently the young should
wed,
In *my* committee I said, "This,
My dearest, is the time to kiss!"



THE SHADOW KISS.

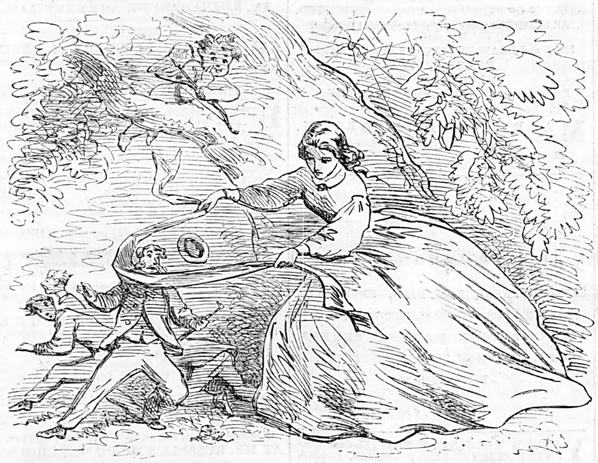
## MY EMMA AND CUPID.

"No earthly love my path shall
cross,"
Romantic Emma cries; "Love's
dross,
And hearts are foolish empty toys,
For moon-struck maids and sillier
boys.
No! happy in my single state,
I'll live and die without a mate."

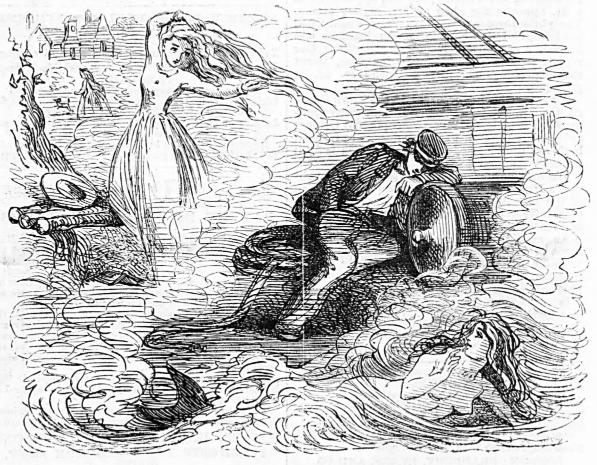
Sly Cupid heard the fair maid's vow,
And, chuckling, drew his amber bow,
Then whispered in mine ear, "My
friend,
Fear not, this whim will find its end;
Fair Emma is not what she seems,
And when a young maid vows, she
dreams.

"Trust me, your Emma means but
this,—
Should some fond lover steal a kiss,
Standing upon her left or right,
She'll not let slip the lucky wight,
But *do her best to hold him tight.*"

Mr. MacDowell, R.A., who has for so long held an eminent place among British sculptors, has been prostrated by an attack of paralysis, and is not likely to be able to resume professional work.—*Echo.*



MY EMMA AND CUPID.



LITTLE GOLDEN HAIR.

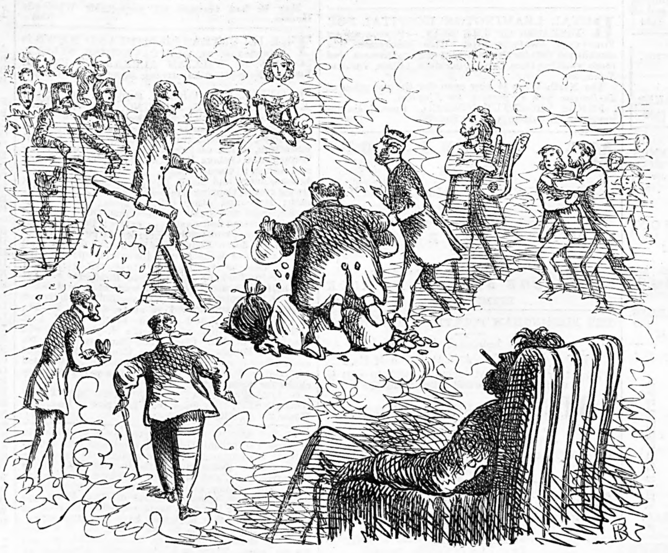
## LITTLE GOLDEN HAIR.

"Little Boy-sailor, with jacket of
blue,
Fond hearts at home have been
thinking of you;
Dreaming the long nights, and
thinking all day,
Of a darling boy-sailor, while he
was away;
And when the ship sail'd away, oh!
how they cried,
Mother and sister, and—some one
beside."

"Dear little Golden-hair, I will tell
thee
What I saw, what I heard, on the
deep sea:
As I sat all alone, on the mast high,
A sea-maiden, singing and swimming, came by;
Combing her tangled and silken-green hair,
Thus she sang sweetly, that sea-maiden fair:

"'Little Boy-sailor, with jacket of
blue,
Mother and sister are thinking of
you;
He, too, forgets not, where'er he
may roam,
Mother and sister, and sweet, sweet
home;
But a something makes little boy-sailor's eyes dim,
When he's thinking of some one—
who's thinking of him.'

"So she pass'd swimming, and
swimming she sang;
And in mine ears the sweet music
still rang;
And I felt, on the mast as I sat all
alone,
Millions of tiny threads over me
thrown;
Threads by the silk-worm in Fairy-land spun—
I felt them all over, but couldn't
see one;
But I knew that the magic web only
could be
Thrown by kind Fairies across the
wide sea,
To bind little Golden-hair closer to
me."



WHO WINS!

**The Royal Wedding.**—The following is the correct list of the Bridesmaids chosen for the marriage of Princess Louise:—Lady Constance Seymour, daughter of the Marquis of Hertford; Lady Elizabeth Campbell, daughter of the Duke of Argyll; Lady Florence Lennox, daughter of the Duke of Richmond; Lady Mary Butler, daughter of the Marchioness of Ormonde; Lady Alice Fitzgerald, daughter of the Marquis of Kildare; Lady Grace Gordon, daughter of the Dowager Marchioness of Huntley; Lady Florence Montagu, daughter of the Earl of Sandwich; and Lady Agatha Russell, daughter of Earl Russell.

# PROVINCIAL NEWS.

With the view of giving our readers every advantage in the matter of news of all sorts, we had engaged at an enormous expense, a series of correspondents throughout the country, who were to keep the subscribers to *Figaro au courant* in the interesting events transpiring in the Provinces. We regret to say that the first batch of letters from these gentlemen has been eminently disappointing; and though they were voluminous enough to have filled the first number of our new series, we feel compelled, in the interest of the public, to entirely suppress them. However, that we may not be accused of tyrannical editing, and that our readers may see what an editor has to put up with, we will append a few extracts from one of our country correspondent's letters, assuring our readers that none of the others even equal it in interest:—

## MUDBOROUGH-IN-THE-MARSH.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

A fortnight ago we elected our worthy townsman, Dr. Huckaback, Esq., the late proprietor of the extensive haberdashery emporium, in the High-street, to the Mayoralty. Already that estimable gentleman has shown how judicious was the choice of the burgesses, for, we understand, that he yesterday sent a cheque for £2 2s. to the Mudborough Museum, and has become an annual subscriber to the funds of the Infirmary. Such munificence must be rewarded, and we hope to see a large number of townsmen rally round our worthy chief magistrate on Monday, when he goes to church in state.

A gratifying proof of the mildness of the present month may be seen in the garden of a worthy inhabitant of the town, who lives not a hundred miles from the "Fox and Goose." He has a black currant tree in full bloom, and his rhubarb bed is a profusion of leaves. He has kindly consented to show these natural phenomena to any one who may call; and any gratuities kindly offered will be devoted to the fund in aid of the Tenor Bell for the Parish Church.

Mr. Benjamin Buggins, brother of Mr. John Buggins, boot and shoemaker, of Fore-street, Mudborough, has been unanimously elected Mayor of Slimeborough-in-the-Stoger for the ensuing year.

On Monday last, the license of the Ship-a-Ground Inn, Back-street, was transferred from Mr. Joseph Biler to Mr. Charles Grippens.

As a woman named Greedy was passing down Fore-street, last Tuesday, she fell, apparently, in a fit, opposite the shop of Mr. Mixer, grocer. The philanthropic tradesman immediately had her brought into his shop, where her face was bathed, and she received every attention. Our reporter, on making his latest inquiries, learnt she recovered sufficiently to spend 3s. 4d. in groceries.

A vacancy having occurred in the Town Council, the borough is plunged into immense excitement. The claims of Messrs. Soaper and Gripper are being hard pushed by their respective friends; both are sanguine of success. The poll is fixed for next Monday.

We are daily expecting a visit from Wombwell's Menageries, and the music-loving portion of the inhabitants are looking forward with intense interest to the advent of the "Great Vance" and his concert party.

An extraordinary meeting of the "Mudborough Gas Company" was held last night, when it was resolved to supply light to the illuminated town clock at a reduction of 6d. per 1000 cubic feet.

Is not that enough, reader? We have "sacked" all our "C.C's."—*London Figaro.*

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MACMILLAN'S MAGAZINE. No. 134.

*FOR DECEMBER, PRICE 1s.*

CONTENTS OF THE NUMBER.

1.—"John to Jonathan:" An Address. By Thomas Hughes, M.P.
2.—Mr. Anthony Trollope's New Story, "Sir Harry Hotspur of Humblethwaite." *Conclusion.*
3.—"Cave-Hunting." By W. Boyd Dawkins, F.R.S. —II. The Denbighshire Caves.
4.—Mr. Walter Besant on "Rabelais."
5.—"The Wigtown Martyrs." By Principal Tulloch, St. Andrews.
6.—"Wesley and Arnold on the War." By A. P. S.
7.—"The Modern Revolt." By E. Lynn Linton.
8.—"Lorne: A Local Sketch." By Henry Dunn Smith, A.M.
9.—"Pleasures of Hotel Bills." By A Traveller.
10.—"Army Administration and the Control Department."
11.—"Missionaries and Mandarins."

A NEW STORY, entitled "PATTY," will commence in the JANUARY Number, and be continued Monthly.

MACMILLAN & CO., LONDON. [128

SPECIMEN ISSUE EARLY IN DECEMBER, 1870.

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LUNCHEON BAR,
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BEFORE
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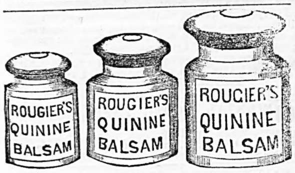

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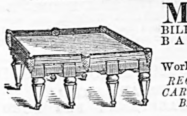

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Illuminating power of Gas in standard Candles, 32½ Candles.

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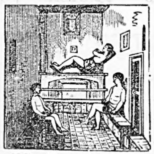

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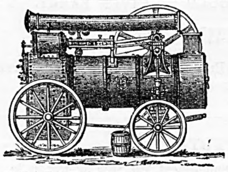

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from every flower that breathes a fragrance.
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SHOW ROOMS FOR MOURNING MILLINERY.
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Funerals efficiently and economically CONDUCTED in every part of the country.
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Sold Everywhere.
YEATMANS
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Sales by Auction every Thursday; by Private Treaty, Daily. [35

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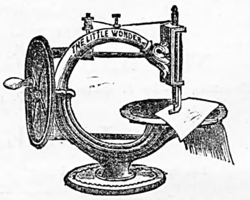
BOTH SIDES ALIKE. £3 3s.



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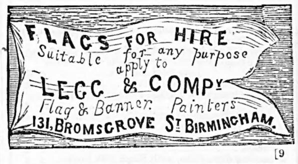

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N.B.—Cases, &c.. made to any design or Pattern.
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Knits everything from Stockings to Blankets,
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BLACK SILKS, Deep and Half Mourning Dresses of Every Description.
SHAWLS, MANTLES, BONNETS, CAPS, and all kinds of Mourning Fancy Goods.
FUNERALS conducted with economy in any part of the country. [456

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WAR.—ORDER OF THE DAY.
DRESS!
RIGHT ABOUT FACE! QUICK MARCH!
TO THE
GLOBE HAT WAREHOUSE for a Brilliant Smart HAT, the crowning point of a Gentleman's *personel.*
BEST VALUE EVER OFFERED.
9s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d., 12s. 6d.
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Full instructions may be obtained upon application to Payne and Talbot. [651

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Improved TROUSER BUTTONS, made with any Name and Address. St. Paul's Square, Birmingham. Patterns by Post. [779

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To assist suburban and remote customers, Messrs. JAY transmit patterns by post, or otherwise, and ladies may rest assured that the specimens and the goods will literally agree; and that in dealing with the old-established firm of Messrs. JAY they will buy at as cheap a cost as in any shop in London.

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| Making Widow's Bodice, ditto, ditto | 8 | 0 |
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| Mounting ditto ditto, with Black Silk Pocket | 2 | 6 |
| Mounting ditto ditto, without Pocket | 1 | 0 |
| Silk Body Lining | 5 | 6 |
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| Lawn Body Lining | 1 | 6 |
| Sleeve Lining | 1 | 0 |
| Silk Facing | 1 | 10½ |
| Petersham Ribbon for Banding | 0 | 8 |
| Petersham Waistband, Covered Crape and Rosette | 2 | 6 |
| Making Garibaldi | 6 | 0 |
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Tucker, Braid, and Trimmings Extra.

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LONDON GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE,
247, 249, *and* 251, *REGENT STREET.*
JAYS'. [877

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